

ZIONEWS

JUNE 2012

A publication for the family of Zion Lutheran Church
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PASTOR'S DEVOTIONAL **"Forgotten Father"**

Kenneth Chafin, an American psychologist who writes often about stronger families and better fathers, arrived home barely in time for the evening meal. He was in a hurry and preoccupied with his thoughts for a speaking engagement that night.

His five year old daughter had her own plans for father "Daddy, will you stay home with me tonight?"

Her plea pierced his soul. How could he tell her? Chafin felt guilty knowing his assigned subject for the group he was speaking to was "What A Good Father Ought To Be."

It was, of course, too late to cancel. To soften her disappointment and help her feel important, he asked her help in his speech. Could she describe what she thought it meant to be a good daddy. During the hurried meal he jotted her ideas down on paper:

1. Catch a fish.
2. Build a fire.
3. Fly a kite.
4. Catch a butterfly.
5. Plant a flower.
6. Get a kitty cat out of the mud.

Then Chafin folded the paper and drove to the meeting. Only as he was waiting on the platform to be introduced did it suddenly hit him.



Nothing that his daughter wanted in an ideal father required money. What she wanted was a little time with her father.

As we know, fathers don't all earn the same amount of money, so what they give to their children in the way of worldly things varies widely. Yet all fathers have the same 24 hours each calendar day. Their responsibility to share time with children is the same.

Beyond the basics of food and shelter, what a child needs most is a little time with Dad. Other gifts can be lavished upon children until they are spoiled rotten, but a father has given nothing of value to his children until he gives himself.

A father who neglects his children, in this matter, will be the forgotten father of tomorrow. Better for both that he invest some time wisely in his own flesh and blood.

Something to think about. And trust me. As the father of two sons and one who has worked long hours, over the years, I have thought about this often. As adults, it is up to my sons to decide how they will remember me.

Peace be with you,

Rev. Douglas Reble
Pastor, Zion Lutheran Church

VICAR'S DEVOTIONAL

*Good night, good night! Parting is such sweet sorrow,
That I shall say good night till it be morrow.*

Romeo and Juliet, Act 2. Scene 2

This oxymoron "sweet sorrow" uttered by Juliet clearly expresses how I am feeling these last few days of May. As I pack up belongings and try to spend as much time as possible with family and friends, I feel that "sweet sorrow." I am sad to be moving away from all that I know and love, yet it feels sweet not only because of the excitement of a new beginning but sweet because I recognize the sorrow comes because I have been blessed. Blessed to have been raised and live in such a great community...blessed to have such great family and friends...blessed to be supported by this faith community of Zion...and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus (1 Tim 1:14). It is true we love, because he first loved us. And now I feel I am ready to go out into ministry to love because you first loved me.



Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you (2 Cor 13:11-13).

Auf Wiedersehen (Until We Meet Again),
Soon to be Pastor Steve



BBQ & SUMMER SERVICES

Sunday, June 3 marks the “official” beginning of our 10 AM summer worship season. Following the service, the Congregational Life Committee hosts the annual BBQ of hot dogs and hamburgers. Besides being a great way to kick-off the summer services, it is also a wonderful opportunity to spend some time with your church family. So come to church that day, worship God in Word and Sacrament, be fed physically, and have a visit with your sisters and brothers in Christ.



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

The Sunday School year closed with an end of year celebration on Pentecost Sunday, May 27 and a staff appreciation supper on May 30. Thanks are due to our teachers, helpers, children, and parents for a great year.

Thanks especially to Jan Bennewitz and Mary-Lou Drown who are retiring as Sunday School co-ordinators after serving us so faithfully these last few years. Their gift of time and talent has been a blessing to our children and Zion’s ministry.

We welcome our new Sunday School co-ordinators who are Mitzi Podann and Tina Small. Sisters in Christ, they are also sisters in life. Thank you Mitzi and Tina for readily agreeing to take this responsibility on.

Of course, you may help Mitzi and Tina and, more importantly, God, your church and our children by serving as a Sunday School teacher or helper. To say yes or learn more, please contact Mitzi Podann at mitzianddoug@sympatico.ca or 519-662-4856 or Tina Small at kerbysmall@yahoo.ca or 519-273-3860.

Have a great summer! See you in the fall back in our Zion Church Sunday School.



ZION SLO-PITCH TEAM

Summer is here and so is baseball. Friday, August 31 to Monday, September 3 (Labour Day Weekend) is the annual Brian Sippel Charity CO-ED Slowpitch Tournament in support of the Canadian Cancer Society. Brian, of course, a former member of Zion, the son of Carl and Ethel. It is a very relaxed, fun, and non-competitive weekend. Cost will be around \$20 a person and participants must be 18 years and older.

Rob Illman, a member of Zion, is, once again, looking to put together a team with members from our congregation. Please contact Rob at 519-273-3924 or email at rillman@rogers.com to say yes.

P.S. Pastor Doug said yes to Rob, last year, and is saying yes again. He had a great time and especially like the mix of young and not so young (him!) on the team. Join him in saying yes!



Due to the long weekend at the end of June and the Royal Conservatory of Music using our church for exams, the Friendship Meal has been cancelled for June. This gives our volunteers a well deserved rest. We return to serving our community, in this way, on July 27. Spread the word!

P.S. It is one week earlier than usual due to the Canada Day long weekend!



STEVE HOFFARD ORDAINED
On Friday evening, July 6 at 7:30 PM at St. John’s Lutheran Church, 22 Willow St., in Waterloo, Steve Hoffard, a beloved member and servant of Zion Church will be ordained into the ministry of Word and Sacrament in our Eastern Synod of our Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada. Steve has been called to be the pastor of St. Mark’s Lutheran Church in Kingston. Also ordained will be our beloved former vicar, Bruce Thompson, called to pastor of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Brockville and Ralph Weigold called to be pastor of a two-point parish in rural New Brunswick.

All are welcome at this festive service. The music will be joyous and our hearts filled as we send Steve, Bruce, and Ralph off to a life of ministry and service as pastors in our church.



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

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 at the Arden Park, on Tuesday, June 26 at 12 noon. Each person will, of course, pay for their own lunch. Please let Phyllis

Jeffery (519-271-3668) or Doris Bartlett (519-271-9622) know by Thursday, June 19, at the latest, so we can reserve your spot.

85+ Birthday: Once again, in what is a beloved tradition, at Zion, we honour our members who turn 85 years or older in 2012 with a birthday party on Thursday, June 21. 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 AnneMarie Hausleitner 519-271-4265.

WOMEN OF FAITH NEWS

The two Women of Faith Circles at Zion, the Gleaners and Mary Marthas and their friends, husbands, and partners come together on Wednesday, June 13 at the cottage of Wayne and Joanne Young, in Grand Bend, at 6 PM, for supper. After supper we head over to the Huron County Playhouse Theatre for a performance of "The Wizard of Oz." Contact Joanne Young at 519-271-3225 for tickets which cost \$35.

The Gleaners Circle gather on Tuesday, June 12 at 11:30 AM, for a lunch at Anna Mae's in Millbank. Please call Doris Bartlett (519-271-9627) or Beryl Horst (519-271-9898) for more information.



P.S. Mark Monday, August 20, in your calendar, as all ladies are welcome to come together at 10AM to make dresses out of pillow cases for girls in need all over the world. Please bring sewing machines with you as well as pillow cases. If you can't make it, donations of pillow cases and trimmings (lace, etc.) would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Beryl Horst at 519-271-9898.

Baptisms

Andrew Dafydd Joseph De Sapiro, son of Joseph & Carina May 27

In Memoriam

David Mallough, April 29
Harvey Mueller, May 4
Zbigniew Niestrawski, May 15

JUNE 2012 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. All June dates are 10 AM services.

DATE	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	GREETERS	READERS	USHER CAPTAINS	COUNTING CAPTAINS
June 3	Mike Bondi & Sister Anne Keffer	Bob & Heather Wickenheiser	Ed Illman	Jerry Terhaerdt	Liz Bomasuit
June 10	N/A	Faye Schaus-Roy	Liz Bomasuit	Brian Wilker	Liz Bomasuit
June 17	Wayne Hinz & Linda Springer	Al & Lorraine Skowby	Dr. Jochen Knackstedt	Tom Cosstick	Rob Leifso
June 24	N/A	Fritz Steigmeier	Nancy White	Irvin Riehl	Rob Leifso

ZION CHURCH FINANCIAL REPORT

	Current	Benevolence
Monthly Requirements	\$28,000.00	\$4,600.00
April Income	\$28,189.52	\$3,931.00
April Expenses	\$33,158.33	\$3,931.00

CURRENT FUND DEFICIT (as of April 30, 2012): \$23,180.16

A Stewardship Thought from Pastor Doug

In Psalm 29, the appointed psalm for Trinity Sunday, the poet is overwhelmed by the glory of God in the power of the storm. In the Psalms, in Job, and in other parts of the Bible there is praise for complexity in the universe. And it's not just the biblical world that is aware of the glory.

In 1901 a strange object was recovered from a ship that sank 2000 years ago off the Greek island of Antikythera. The object appears to be mechanical gears, fused from time. Intense study has led many to believe it is an ancient computer. When a handle was turned the machine showed the movements of the heavenly bodies in the sky. It could even be used to predict future eclipses. Models have been made to recreate this mechanism, a product born of the awe and appreciation the ancient people had for the complexity of creation.

If anything, our increased knowledge of the universe increases our awe of creation. And if we are in awe of creation's complexity then we should be even more impressed by the complexity of the Creator. The first Christians believed they experienced God in at least three significant ways that we call the Trinity. Some try to limit the way we know the unknowable God to this concept, but in scripture there are many images used to decide the divine.



With the Psalmist, with the ancients, with all who have looked around at storm and sky and earth and seas and whispered or shouted "Glory!" Let us praise the complexity that confronts us and the simple response we are asked to give – to serve the least of these with what belongs to the creator in the first place. Let us adore in our giving and give because we adore. Let us return God's trust in us by giving bountifully and with purpose.

Blessings,
Pastor Doug



CAN YOU HELP?

The 17th Zion Scouting Group, sponsored by our congregation, is looking for a Zion member to serve on the Group Committee. Working with the Beaver and Cub leaders, you will help ensure enduring and active leadership in a group which does much for the children in our community. To learn more, please speak with Pastor Doug as soon as possible.



HELPING HANDS DAY AT EDGEWOOD

Camp Edgewood extends an invitation to all who enjoy our Lutheran Camp and Conference Centre to help it prepare for the upcoming summer season on Saturday, June 16 from 9 AM to 5 PM. Young and old, families, youth, and individuals are invited to lend a helping hand. Whether it is for one hour or all day, come on out. Activities include cleaning, painting, laundry, trail maintenance, raking, gardening, and more. Helpers are invited to a free spaghetti dinner at 5:30 PM in recognition of your contributions. Call 1-519-856-9622 or email heather@edgewood-camp.on.ca to let Edgewood know you are able to attend.

P.S. Camperships will be offered, once again, thanks to the Zion Lutheran Church Endowment Fund. The amount is \$200 per child to help defray costs. The only stipulation is that the child has to be a member of our congregation. If your child is attending, please let Terry know in our church office, once you register.



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Habitat for Humanity needs your help! Habitat is building a home in Stratford from now until July 27 and is seeking more volunteers for the construction and for making light lunches and snacks for the volunteers. The ReStore also needs volunteers, particularly for cleaning, painting and cashier work.

Please call Debra at 519-814-0022 for more information or email at dstaceyriver@habitatstratfordperth.ca



CALL TO SPIRITUAL RENEWAL

Over the past couple of years, National Bishop Susan Johnson, has been encouraging a call for spiritual renewal and deeper discipleship within our church, which includes regular attendance at worship, daily prayer and scripture reading, involvement in a program of study, regular service in the community (not just the congregation), regular and proportional giving similar to the understanding of the tithe found in scripture, and commitment to sharing the good news with those around us, beginning with our family and friends. A simplified list of this call to deeper discipleship includes: Worship, Pray, Study, Serve, Give, Read, and Tell. This month's focus on "Read" concludes our services.

READ

We are called to daily reading of the Bible. Here are some ideas for incorporating reading the Bible into your daily life.

- Set aside a regular time and place for reading the Bible. Perhaps you have time while sitting on the bus on the way to or from work, or in the evenings after dinner.
- Use the ELCIC's *Eternity for Today* resource, or a similar devotional that includes a short portion of scripture and a written prayer. And to read further, look up the whole *Eternity for Today* passage in your Bible.
- Use the three-year Daily Lectionary found on pages 1121-1153 of *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.
- Subscribe to online daily Bible readings. Sign up to have a daily Bible verse delivered to you via email, RSS feed or on Facebook. Some resources you can use include: Canadian Bible Society (biblesociety.ca/the_word_and_you/scripture_resources); Sojourners Verse and Voice (sojo.net/index.cfm?action=sojomail.subscribe); or ELCA Daily Bible Readings (elca.org/What-We-Believe/The-Bible.aspx).
- Listen to the Bible on CD while doing the dishes, driving or walking.
- Read the Bible together with your family or with a friend.
- Don't be afraid to highlight, underline, and write in your Bible. A Bible should be well-loved.
- Try the One-Year Bible. This will involve reading larger portions of scripture every day.
- Utilize the Canadian Bible Society daily Bible reading guide.

(biblesociety.ca/sites/default/files/2011DBRG_En.pdf).

▪Sign on to the Book of Faith project (bookoffaith.org). And consider the study methods offered on the site. (bookoffaith.org/biblemethods.html).

▪Ask questions as you read! Ask who, what, where, when and why.

▪Join or start a book club that focuses on reading the Bible a book at a time.

▪Purchase or borrow a lectionary commentary or go to an online commentary such as textweek.com or workingpreacher.org to read and learn more about the Sunday readings.