

Zion Lutheran Church

SEPTEMBER 2009

CONTACT US!

OFFICE HOURS

M-F 9:00 AM-3:00 PM

or by appointment.

Office Phone

(508)987-1248

email Pastor Simon

rev.simon@charterinternet.com

Office email: Karen Borden

oxfordzion@charterinternet.com

Website

www.oxfordzion.org

Emergency Pastoral Contact:

(508) 987-3958



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY MORNING:

9:00 am Early service

9:30 am Christian Education

10:30 am 2nd service

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept. 1: Karen's hours 12:00 noon-3:00 PM Tues.-Fri

Sept. 8: 7:00 PM Council Mtg.

Sept. 11-13: 4 Zion Youth to Hammonasset along with Lisa Petrovski

Sept. 13: Rally Day

9:30 AM Sunday School registration and start of Sunday School classes

Sept. 15: 10:00 AM Tuesday morning Bible study begins

Sept. 15: 7:00 PM Evangelism Committee Mtg.

Sept. 15: Newsletter Deadline

Sept. 20: 10:30 AM Stephen Ministry Commissioning followed by reception.

A BUSY SEPTEMBER!

This September is a busy one at Zion! Could you say the same thing about this September in your life? What are the things in your life that make this September busy? Are they things you love doing? Are there things that you're dreading? Are there things that make you wish September weren't arriving so soon? Me too.

Our calendar at Zion is filled with some of the usual September activities-Sunday School resumes on the 13th, a new team of Stephen Ministers will be commissioned on the 20th. This September is special, though, because it will begin and end with baptisms. On Sunday September 7 Bryce Lundquist will be baptized and on Sunday September 27th Alexia DiConte will be, too! As I look at the calendar, I am excited for both of these events, but I am also struck by how much they mean to all of us. Welcoming anyone into our community of faith is special, but welcoming children through baptism is extra special.

Jesus told his followers: "Go to the people of all the nations and make them my disciples. Baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to do everything I have told you. I will be with you always, even until the end of the world." (Matthew 28:19-20 CEV)

These children, Bryce and Alexia, are gifts from God, and we are blessed as a congregation to have them be a part of our busy September at Zion!

God's Peace! Pastor Andrew



September 13th is Rally Day. On that day we welcome back all of young people to Sunday School, our regular worship schedule begins and Coffee Hour returns. Our final Outdoor Chapel service will be held at 9:00 AM on Sunday, September 6th. On Sunday, September 13th both of our worship services will be held in the sanctuary, Sunday School begins at 9:30 AM and Coffee Hour is held following the 9:00 service and continues following the 10:30 service. Worship times remain the same with the first service at 9:00 AM and the second at 10:30 AM with Christian Education held between services.

Zion Lutheran Church
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Oxford, MA 01540
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STEWARDSHIP

Welcome back, I pray that all had a spirit filled restful summer. The Stewardship committee has come up with a theme for this falls Stewardship program. The theme is an **“Attitude of Gratitude”**. It will give all of us an opportunity to reflect on all the blessings that the Lord has provided for us and to be grateful for those blessings. There are several changes to the Stewardship drive this year. We will have a pot luck supper on **October 17th** at **5pm** to kick off the Stewardship drive. This supper will include all members of Zion, young and not so young! The evening will consist of activities that will help us to focus on stewardship and the blessings that we have been given by our Lord. Temple talks will be on Sunday the 18th, Tuesday the 20th, Sunday the 25th and Tuesday the 27th. Consecration Sunday will be November 1st with a three part vignette planned on the past-present-future of Zion.

Last year we had over 40 members participate in serving our Lord by volunteering for cleaning the church and doing coffee hour. We will continue the program this year and look for even more members to take advantage of this opportunity to serve our Lord. There are signup sheets on the back wall and there will also be a mailing with cards for you to reserve your special week(s).

The Stewardship committee will be mailing a graph to all members; this graph will provide a visual presentation of all that give to Zion. This is an informational mailing to give everyone a complete picture of the full spectrum of giving at Zion. This information will maintain the confidentiality of all members, no names or envelope numbers will be used. Only the member receiving the mailing will know where they are in this visual presentation.

E-giving continues to be a priority. Make this the year that you try e-giving. It means never getting behind in your giving and having to play catch-up. It ensures a predictable cash flow for Zion in order to meet our monthly commitments.

The Endowment Fund is in place and starting to grow. This will continue to be part of our stewardship plan here at Zion. This fund will help to ensure that Zion will be here for future generations. Thanks

to all that have given to this fund.

Last year I challenged all to open their Alabaster jars and share their blessings with others. I pray that all have met that challenge. This year with our “Attitude of Gratitude”, I will continue to pray, that we share our blessings with others.

Stewardship Chair, Mike Bellisario

CLEANING IN **SEPTEMBER**



Week of:

September 7: Dick and Gerri Siegmund

September 14: Dick and Gerri Siegmund

September 21: Open

September 28: Open

COFFEE HOUR IN **SEPTEMBER**



Sunday:

September 6: Open

September 13: Open

September 20: Stephen Ministry

September 27: Open

Keys are available from Karen in the office or from Mike. Directions for coffee hour are on the inside of the cupboard door in the kitchen. Cleaning instructions are in the closet in the fellowship hall. We need volunteers for cleaning and for coffee for the month of September. If you can fill in any of the above dates please call Karen at the church or sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex.



Opening day for Sunday School will be on Sunday, September 13th at 9:30 AM. Registration for Sunday School will be on that day. In addition to registration there will also be a class for the children to attend.

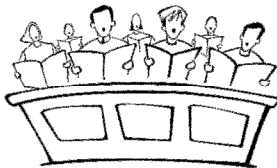
At this time we are looking for 2 volunteers for our Sunday School teaching staff. We need a teacher for **1st/2nd** grade and a teacher for **3rd/4th** grade. If this is something you would like to do, contact **Patti Murray**, our Christian Education Chair person at 508-987-1129.

WORSHIP NEWS



Our worship services for the fall will remain at 9:00 and 10:30 AM and Tuesday evenings at 6:00 PM. We are hoping to introduce some new music into our 9:00 service. We are in need of help in the following areas: **Worship Assistants (both services)**, **Communion Assistants (10:30)**, **Lectors (both services)**, **Ushers (10:30)**, **Element Presenters (10:30)**, and **Altar Guild (both services)**. Please contact Dot Sundman (508-865-4696 if you are interested in helping out in any of these areas. God bless and thank you for your support.

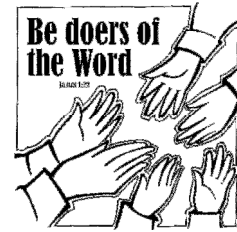
Dot Sundman, Worship Chair



MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER OF MUSIC

Do you play an instrument or have you always been interested in making music? If you sing or play trumpet, violin, electric bass, or even a tambourine, we want you to be part of our musical team at Zion! This group will lead the 9:00 AM service starting this fall. Commit to one Sunday or every Sunday. We plan to rehearse one evening per month, and one Sunday morning per month after the 9:00 service. **Please contact Chris at Costello@tantasqua.org or 774-00-6829.**

We hope you can join us!



SOCIAL MINISTRY NEWS

Social Ministry offers three possibilities for you to show Zion's love and caring in our communities. First, we are collecting back to school supplies for needy children. Pencils, crayons, pencil crayons, assignment pads, notebooks and backpacks are very much appreciated to help start the school year off. Secondly, we are collecting videos for the Lutheran Home in Worcester to put some variety into their film library. Comedies, musicals, westerns and the classics are in high demand. Thirdly, if you or a loved one has been hospitalized recently and sent home with extra dressings, post surgical band aids, salves, toothbrushes, saline solution or simple appliances (canes, walkers), please think about donating them. A free medical clinic in Worcester is offered every Tuesday and they would be very grateful for these supplies. Boxes will be placed in the back of the church. As always, we thank you in advance for your generosity.

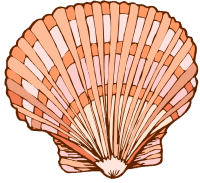
Thank you. Paula Clark

OFFICE HOURS



Karen Borden's hours will return to afternoons on **Tuesday, September 1st** with the beginning of the school year. Karen will be in the office **Tuesdays-Fridays from 12:00 noon to 3:00 PM.**

STEPHEN MINISTRY UPDATES



The Stephen Ministry's special cut shell crosses project has added several new items to the inventory. In addition to the crosses, we now have Stars, Snowflakes and Angels. The new items are every bit as beautiful and unique as the Crosses. Each will still sell for \$8.00 each except for a smaller Angel, which is \$6.00. We are trying to keep an inventory of all items on hand for immediate sale as well as filling orders for more. To purchase a truly unique and lovely gift please call Carol Weinhardt at 508-461-7424.



ZION MEMBERS TELL A STORY

I would like to fill the bulletin board with pictures of the members of Zion from the summer months. Please bring in your favorite summer photo with a few words about the picture and the names of the people. I believe it will tell a beautiful story about the members of our church and will bring people together. Any questions can be forwarded to Lisa Betrovski at enjoythejourney4@aol.com. **The deadline for photo's is October 3rd.**



CALLING ALL COLLEGE STUDENTS!

Please pass your college address on to the church office so that we can keep in touch with you while you are at school. You can email addresses to the church office at oxfordzion@charterinternet.com. Thanks!

YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES CONTINUE FOR POST HIGH SCHOOL GRADS AT ZION AND AROUND CENTRAL MASS

Youth Ministry has become a vibrant ministry at Zion and for Lutheran churches around central Massachusetts. The Lutheran Inter-Parish Youth of Central Mass (**LIPY-CM**) has given the opportunity for dozens of junior and high school youth at Zion and in central Massachusetts to gather socially to share their faith.

With such great success **LIPY** has experienced, youth, along with Pastor Andrew Borden of Zion, Worcester has decided to continue the wonderful experiences brought to youth through **LIPY** to post high school graduates. This new group known as **Christ Centered Young Adults of Central Massachusetts (CCYA-CM)** is a group that is for young adults ages 18-28 years old. The group meets mostly over school breaks such as Columbus Day Weekend, Winter Break, and Summer Break, but also has events scattered throughout the year for those who go to school close to home or are in the work force. Previous events have already included movie nights, cooking a meal for residents of Jeremiahs Inn of Worcester, a Habitat for Humanity build in Bedford, MA. and a bike ride to raise money for Habitat for Humanity. **CCYA** is advised by Pastor Andrew Borden and Pastor John Longworth, Youth Pastor at Trinity, Worcester. **CCYA** welcomes all Christians and even all faiths to be part of the group. **CCYA**, even though non-denominationally focused has been recognized as an official ministry for young adults by the New England Synod and Bishop Margret Payne.

With numerous possibilities for service, socialization, and fellowship **Christ Centered Young Adults of Central Massachusetts (CCYA-CM)** will continue to grow. Continue to look for announcements in your bulletins and newsletters to find out what **CCYA** is up to and how you can support this exciting new ministry!

if you have any questions about **CCYA** please feel free to call or e-mail me.

God's Peace, Kevin Joslyn

(774)276-6255

kj291001@wnec.edu

HISTORY COMMITTEE UPDATE

It has been 6 months since the History Committee has been formed and approved. During that time we have been reasonably successful in building an archive to represent the history of Zion in both Webster and here in Oxford. The first phase of the work was to pull together, in one place, all the significant documents and photos that we that we found stored within the church. This material was then sorted, identified, organized and stored in a locked steel file cabinet purchased by the Memorial Committee for this project. All sensitive documents and photos are protected in special archival sleeves.

Next we have reached out to members of the congregation for donations of suitable material that might aid in completing or enriching the archive. We have been very pleased that the following people have generously stepped forward and made donations; Conrad Redlitz, Barbara Munsch, Esther Elliott, Barbara Steege, Carol Weinhardt, Margaret Heide, Richard and Geraldine Siegmund, Isabel Cannalonga, Milton Schremser, Janice Duesenberg, and Ken and Patricia Bean. In some cases original items could not be given, but instead were loaned to us to have copies made.

As one might expect, some photos were found that had not been notated with a date or description of the event, or names of the people shown. For assistance with this we called upon some of our senior church members. Many memories were taxed, hopefully enjoyably, and as a result many items are now properly labeled.

During this summer, a small exhibit of some of the material has been prepared and may be seen in one of the glass covered cases in the Narthex. This material represents about the first 60 years of the church. Also note that the Holy Bible on the shelf in the Narthex is now on a brass Bible stand. The Bible stand was found in storage and dates back to 1931. It is inscribed "In Memory of Christof and Wilhelmina Schur". They were both founders of the church and grandparents of Conrad Redlitz, Elmira Surozenski and Gretchen Hoening. This Bible stand was used on the altar of the original church in Webster.

As we move toward the church's next major anniversary, our 125th, in 2015, we bring 3 items to the attention of the Church Council for consideration in their planning. First, the locked file cabinet containing our archives would be replaced with a "fire proof" cabinet. Second, the 2 earliest church ledgers containing official records should be professionally rebound. Third, but not least, the church bell and yoke, purchased in 1896 for the original Zion, should be restored, conserved and in some way mounted as to be viewed and occasionally utilized. Respectfully submitted,

Donald H. Weinhardt, Chairman



HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

In memory of **Elsie Whalen**

From Babara Steege

In memory of **Elsie Whalen**

from Isabel Cannalonga

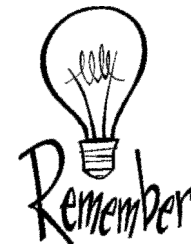
In memory of **Mark Steege**

from Isabel Cannalonga

In memory of **Mark Steege** from
Dick and Gerri Siegmund

In memory of **Mark Steege** from
Barbara Steege

In memory of **Ed, Harry & Tom**
from Betty Keegan



S.A.G.E.S.

Senior Adults Growing in Experience and Spirituality have a number of activities lined up.

FUTURE EVENTS

September: Water Fire in Providence, RI

October: Roger Williams Park

November: Willard Clock Museum

December: Christmas Concert

**For further information contact
Janice Masi at 508-943-1999 or
Lee White at 508-943-5365**



GREENING UPDATE

Zion's push to cut back on paper this summer has been a huge success. By changing our service bulletins we were able to save approximately 3,890 pieces of paper along with 7,780 copies.

This has been a significant reduction in resource usage and cost for the church.

As fall begins the Greening Committee is pleased to announce that we will be merging with the Property Committee. This merger will make it easier to implement many of the recommended actions that came out of last year's energy audit such as improving building energy efficiency and updating older appliances. The new Property Committee will remain committed to helping Zion become a greener church. As before the support of the congregation will be needed to make this happen. As future successes like this summer's paper reduction occur be sure to read about them in each month's newsletter.

Jason Craley



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Thomas Mallett 1
 Esther Elliott 05
 Jeffrey Clark 09
 Allie Howland 13
 Chris Costello 13
 John Makowski 13
 Patrick Reed 16
 Helen McGovern 17
 Erika Larson 20
 Justin Aniello 21
 Harold Basins 21
 Steve Schur 23
 Lucas Levasseur 23
 Ruth Schur 24
 Haylee Olson 24

"A SECOND HELPING OF FEED THE WOMAN"

The New England Synod invites you to a Fall retreat entitled "**A Second Helping Of Feed The Women**" to be presented **Saturday, September 19, 2009 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Worcester, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM.** A poster with information is posted in the Narthex. Registration forms are available on the table in the Narthex



TREASURER NEEDED

We are looking for someone to fill the Treasurer position on our church council. Duties include paying bills, reporting income and expenditures, and accounting. If you are interested, or to see a full job description, please contact the church office at (508) 987-1248 or oxfordzion@charterinternet.com If you have any questions see a member of the executive committee: Ossie Rambarran, Doug Holst, or Charlene Howland. You may also see Pastor Andrew.



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Joyce Cozzens (hospitalized), Al Killian (hospitalized), Louise Cyr, Jackie Bean, Fran Chlapowski, Rebecca Chlapowski, Esther Elliott, Tom Mallett, Fred Grindle, Eleanor Gadoery, Mala Abdella, Ruth Jenks, Josie Hendrix, Raymon Angel Nunez, Pamela Foy, Jeri-Lynn Berlin, Janet Abissi, Cherie Dittmer, Ron Johnson, Sandy Howland, Bruce Arnott, Arthur Siegmund, Ruth Witthoef,, Brian Quinlan, Mrs. Wurth, Maryanne Grzelecki, Debbie Monaco, Matthew Lucas, Lois Austin, John Dunphy, Frank Abissi, Ronny Waters, Katie Schmidt, Patricia Mokaba, Rev. Don and Rev. Peg Olson, Joyce Gatzke Tavares, Theresa Bromme, Patz and Robert Clark, Gilbert Thibeault,, Alexia Clinton, Wilma Miller, Frank Maher, Margarethe Johnson, Mark Blamire, Barbara Hasenberg, David Marcoux, Robert Nowak, Kathy Witt, Rocky Miller, Jim McGovern, Norman Clark Jr., Albert Risner, Anne Bayer, Phyllis Watkins, Isabel Cannalonga, Mary McIntyre, Helen McGovern, Susan Rohr, Bob Blood Jr., Geraldine Maher, Bernice Gladue, Dolores Masi, John Laverne, Michael Gustafson, Diana Powers, Peter Pierce, David Healy, Esther Wood; military personnel serving our country at home and in the Middle East especially William Jakola, Brandon Morin, Joel Daoust, Rob Snow, Dedrick Baublitz, Michelle Ramsey, Richard Ramsey, Barbie Miller; and Jesse Meagher; Christians in the Middle East; our partner Synods the ELCJH and the South-eastern Minnesota Synod and the Lutheran Church in Honduras.



Sit back and relax this holiday season!

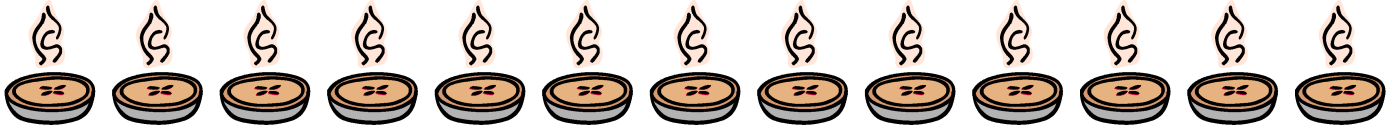
Stephen Ministry is having a...

Homemade Pie Sale

What a bargain...ONLY \$8.00 Per Pie!

It is quick and easy...all you have to do is fill out the order form below and return it to the Church Office, Pam Olson or Charlene Howland.

Just in time for the Thanksgiving holiday...we will have the pies ready to be picked up at church on November 22, 2009.



Name:

Phone Number:

p Apple – Frozen Quantity _____

p Apple – Baked Quantity _____

p Pumpkin – Frozen Quantity _____

p Pumpkin - Baked Quantity _____

RETURN THIS ORDER FORM TO THE FOLLOWING:

CHURCH OFFICE
PAM OLSON
CHARLENE HOWLAND
Email chowlan@commerceinsurance.com

DEADLINES FOR ORDERS IS OCTOBER 24, 2009!