



Zion Lutheran Monthly



October 2013

Monday - Saturday

There's a running joke that Pastor's only work one day a week.

That's not exactly true. We also work Christmas Eve and Good Friday.

But what DO Pastors do during the week? Do we sit in dimly lit rooms surrounded by big books? Do we spend hours in liturgical prayer? Do we walk the halls of hospitals, nursing homes and rehabilitation facilities? Do we work on our golf game?

I'm not going to give away the secrets of what we pastors do on a weekly basis (because it is always something different), but two things I've had the privilege of doing as your pastor are attending the Vicarage Supervisor's Conference at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis as well as taking a couple of classes at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.

At the Vicarage Supervisor's Conference I was able to meet with other Vicarage Supervisors as well as seminary faculty for a period of a couple of days. We learned about the state of the seminary, the challenges of doing ministry in the 21st Century, and how to have a successfully vicarage experience.

Having had time to think about what was presented and discussed, two of the things that are definitely worth sharing with you are...

We have an extraordinary vicar. Even the Vicarage Program Director (Glenn Nielsen) said that we were given one of the best students the seminary has. We could not have asked for a better vicar, nor should we expect David's equal in subsequent vicars.

Secondly, we are one of very few (if any) vicarage congregations that understands the purpose of the vicarage program: to help prepare a man (and his family) for life in the Pastoral Ministry. Because we are the smallest (numerically) vicarage congregation, David does not a cog in some large multi-staff ministry. And because we understand the purpose of the vicarage program, you want him to experience (as close as we can) what awaits him in the pastoral ministry.

Also, you have given me permission and encouragement to begin taking classes (part-time) at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. This quarter I'm taking Old Testament History and Ethics classes. I hope to be able to translate what I am learning into my sermons and Bible studies, as well as other areas of Pastoral Ministry. Thank you for giving me the freedom to expand my academic knowledge and experience; I hope that, when this (tentatively) 2 year adventure is over, it will prove to be a blessing to Zion, my family, and the ministry of the Gospel.

All the best,
In Christ,
Pastor Duncan McLellan

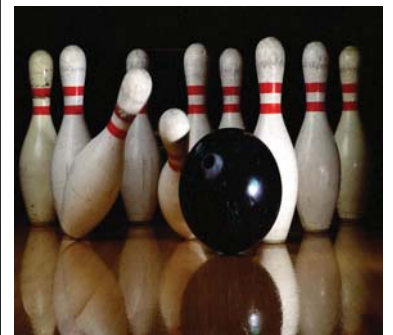
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Bowling Schedule!

Week 3: Friday October 4
Week 4: Friday October 18

All games are played at
6:30pm at
AMF Mt. Lebanon Lanes



Confirmation Update

The Confirmation Program kicked-off with a lock-in on the 27th and 28th of September. Our Confirmation students learned the basic of hermeneutics (or “how to read the Bible”) and covered the basics of the Old Testament while enjoying times of games, fellowship, and even sharing with the Men’s Bible Breakfast breakfast. Instead of meeting weekly for an hour, we are getting together for longer periods of time less frequently. The next “Module” for our Confirmation Students will be November 15-17 at Camp Jumonville where we will learn the basics of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. We are always looking for chaperones (of all ages), so if you’d like to help out, get in touch with Pastor or Vicar.

YOUTH GROUP

Zion is starting a Youth Group! If you are currently in confirmation through high school you are invited to participate in Youth Group. This month the Youth and the Vicar are planning to go putt-putt golfing. Youth group will take place on Sunday October 6th from 6-9pm. We will meet in the church parking lot. Please come and invite a friend and see if you can beat the Vicar at miniature golf.



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS!

October Unit: People Who Made a Difference

Through the stories of people of faith, such as Deborah, Jeremiah, the Centurion's servant and the woman at the well, we learn how these people made a difference and we learn more about God.

As people of faith, we can respond to God and make a difference.

These stories can be found here: Judges 4: 4-15, Jeremiah 1: 4-8, Luke 7: 1-10 and John 4: 5-41. Feel free to add to your families Bible studies!

Mark your calendars!

- Sunday, November 10th - practice for Christmas program begins

Sunday, December 15th - Sunday school Christmas program and Dinner



1. Dale Miller
- 2 Aidan Dibert
- 3 William Bishop III
- 3 Jodi Fitzgerald
- 3 Dwight Weldon
- 4 Stephanie Watkins
- 5 Rebecca Ivancza
- 7 Dorothea Heslop
- 7 Carolyn Wible
- 9 Aaron Hunsberger
- 10 Daniel Jenkins
- 10 Diana Schmidt
- 11 Dylan Walsh
- 12 Sandra Bryant
- 12 Sheryl Piper
- 13 Renee Trudel
- 14 LaVerne Eckles
- 14 Steve Gauger
- 14 Craig Scott
- 15 Kimberly LaJeunesse



- 16 Samuel Jenkins
- 16 Sara Jones
- 16 John Lemonovich
- 17 Donald Jones
- 18 Wayne Oechslein
- 19 Carolyn Wuerthele
- 21 Lois Sauro
- 22 Jennifer Elikor
- 22 Patricia Neill
- 23 Kristy Ivancza
- 26 John Gielarowski
- 26 Lindsey Liberatore
- 27 David Miller
- 29 George Boehme
- 30 Laurie Coleman
- 30 Sharon Koop

- 1 George and Florence Boehme 1955
- 3 Donald and Sara Jones 1992
- 11 Wayne and Kathleen Conn 1997
- 13 Ross and Christine Chilcott 2007
- 18 Wayne and Barbara Oechslein 1975
- 19 James and Stephanie Eckels 1996
- 19 Gregory and Salina Howcroft 2002
- 20 James and Sarah Lynch 1956
- 22 Eric and Michelle Hunsberger 2005
- 23 John and Carrie Lemonovich 2004
- 30 John and Kathleen Derosa 1999



On Pope Francis' Recent Pronouncement

In a recent 12,000-word interview, Pope Francis (head of the 1.2 billion member Roman Catholic Church) made statements to the effect that the church has been too focused on things like homosexuality and abortion at the expense of losing the "freshness and fragrance of the gospel." Opinion writers worked overtime spinning the Pope's words to their political or social advantage. Now it's my turn.

Those who think the Roman Catholic Church is going to change their doctrinal positions on either abortion or homosexuality need to think again. The Pope was not talking about changing positions, but on emphasis and image. Let me explain.

Evangelism is a lot like speed dating. Not familiar with speed dating? It's a relatively recent phenomenon when a bunch of single men and women spend a very brief amount of time in one-on-one situations in a controlled environment. At the end of the evening, people who made a first-impression connection exchange contact information. (At least this is what I learned about speed dating from the movie Hitch and the TV show House.) The point is that evangelism is a lot like speed dating; first impressions are all that counts.

It appears to be the Pope's contention that the first impression of the Roman Catholic Church has been its stances on abortion and homosexuality. He does not believe this should be, for lack of a better phrase, the church's pick-up line. The church, he contends, should lead off with something more inclusive, more inviting, more (again, pardon the analogy to speed dating) romantic and flattering.

Does the Pope have a point? When it comes to how we are perceived, is it more for our moral values and our perceived political affections than the gospel of Jesus Christ? (The answer is an unqualified yes.) The question we have to ask ourselves is: would I rather my neighbor/ co-worker/ friend/ family hear the good news that their sins are forgiven because of the death and resurrection of Jesus than that they behave and vote the way we think they should?

How we answer this question shapes our congregation, our relationships, our faith, and the future of the church. The choice is obvious, but the decision is yours.

In Christ,
Pastor Duncan

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Church, Mission & Synod (CMS) & Plate Finances

<i>August</i> Income	\$43,857.00
<i>August</i> Expenses	<u>38,147.00</u>
Favorable to Income	\$ 5,710.00

All bills through September have been paid and we are estimating \$10,000.00 cash on hand.

Continue to pray for Zion that we are able to grow our community outreach ministry, support local charities and Christian education for youth and adults. May God guide us in using these gifts and our talents to spread the Good News!

Chairman
Bob Schmidt

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

OCTOBER

DATE	TIME	GREETERS	ACOLYTES
October 6	8:00 AM 10:30AM	Bob & Shelly James Vince & Ginny Kimberland	Grant Geregach Jennifer Fitzgerald
October 13	8:00 AM 10:30AM	Clara Hayes John & Kari Gresh & Family	TBA Ryan Harris
October 20	8:00 AM 10:30Am	Wayne & Kathleen Conn Neil Ackerman	Christopher Yellig Josiah Ackerman
October 27	8:00 AM 10:30AM	Peter & Barbara Fisher David & Penny Miller & Family	TBA Sydney Harris
November 3	8:00 AM 10:30AM	Bob & Bernice DeBoe Sam Dragan	TBA Jennifer Fitzgerald
November 10	8:00 AM 10:30AM	Bill & Melanie Becker Elsie DallaPiazza	Josiah Ackerman Ryan Harris

ELDERS	Robert Oelschlager, Brian Pasquini
ALTAR GUILD	Judy Meier, Marianne Miller, Millie Thielet
USHERS @ 8:00 am	Kathleen Conn, Bill Schrag, Janet Zreliak, Larry Zreliak
Ushers @ 10:30 am	Ross Chilcott, Steve Gauer, Dan Harris, Chuck LaJeunesse

NOVEMBER

ELDERS	John Gielarowski, Jay Anderson
ALTAR GUILD	Kathleen Conn, Shelly James
USHERS @ 8:00 am	Bill Becker, Josh Gielarowski, Barb Oechslein, Wayne Oechslein
USHERS @ 10:30 am	Sam Dragan, Vince Kimberland, Loren Ludeman, Jim Oelschalger

If you are unable to participate on the assigned date, please find your own substitute and notify the church office (412) 221-4776 or secretary@zlc.org of the change.

Harvestfest II

Friday, October 25th, from 6-9pm we are going to be having our Second Annual Harvestfest. And just like the original, this one will be packed full of things for you and your family! From the huge bonfire to hayrides, from hot dogs to s'mores, from games to fellowship, there's something for everyone (including your friends). The fun starts at 6; the hayrides stop at 9, but the fire will stay lit as late as you stay.





Our school year is off to another great start. We have the highest number of students enrolled in the history of the school...114! Our classes include 1 Stepping Stones class, 2 PreKindergarten classes, 3 PreSchool classes and 2 Small Steps classes. To accommodate all of these wonderful children, we had to add some new staff members as well. Kara Garrubba is working in the PreKindergarten class with Mrs. Barb, Kellie Stock is working in the Small Steps class with Mrs. Paula, and Susan Liptak spends her time in the Small Steps class Mondays and Wednesdays and in the Stepping Stones class on Fridays.

October will be filled with lots of activities and excitement. We will start the month with a Fire Drill for all classes. October is fire prevention month and we will have a visit from "Firefighter Phil". Firefighter Phil brings his friend, Al E. Cat along to help teach the children about fire safety and prevention. The program uses magic, games and ventriloquism with Al E. Cat to engage the children and keep their attention while they learn. Firefighter Phil also brings one of his friends from the Bridgeville fire department in "full fireman gear". The day concludes with a visit to the fire truck where the children can go inside and explore. What a blast!

We will also have our first Chapel in October...The Parable of the Pumpkin. **"For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," make His light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ." 2 Corinthians 4:6.** This lesson uses two jack-o-lanterns, one happy with a lit candle inside and one unhappy, dark pumpkin. The carved pumpkins help to explain the Gospel story in a very "visual" way. The lesson explains the differences between living life with Jesus and living life without Jesus. We will also read "The Pumpkin Patch Parable." It is our prayer that these two activities help to make the Gospel message more clear and meaningful to the children. **"When Jesus spoke again to the people, He said, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8:12**

Spaghetti anyone? The date for this year's Annual Spaghetti Dinner and Art Show is Friday, November 8th. We will do a buffet style dinner including spaghetti with marinara and meatballs and Fettuccini Alfredo. And, of course, we will have our delicious bake sale. If you would like to donate some "goodies" to the bake sale, please drop them off either Thursday the 7th, or Friday the 8th before 1:00 pm. Tickets will be on sale soon.

We will finish the month with field trips to local pumpkin farms for some pumpkin picking, apple tasting and just plain good ol' fun!

Blessings,
Tracey Harris

Special Voters Meeting - Outcome

At a Special Voter's meeting on August 25, 2013 the voter's of Zion approved the Sanctuary Improvement project.

- 1a. Carpet/Tile Combination
- 2a. Window Tinting
- 3a. Altar Cushions
- 4.a Painting Heating Units
- 5b. Pew Refurbishment and New Pew Chairs
- 6c. Air Conditioning

The estimated cost is broken down into three financial components. The first financial components 1a – 4a are estimated at \$47,000. The second financial component 5b is estimated at \$20,000. The third financial component 6c is estimated at \$35,000. The total cost of the project is estimated around \$102,000.

We are targeting to complete items 1 – 5 in early 2014 and item 6 in late spring. You might have all ready received or will be receiving information on the fundraiser initiative for this project.

Keep a lookout for the fundraising information in your mail.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Committee: Kim & Jay Anderson, Sharon & Gene Koop, Susie & Bill Bishop and Alissa & Pastor McLellan for undertaking this important Sanctuary Improvement project.

Chairman

Bob Schmidt



Oktoberfest!

2013

Thank you to everyone who helped make Zion's 5th annual Oktoberfest a huge success! This year we had over 300 people come to our event. With your help we raised \$3,000 to be used to build a new secretary work station in the school lobby. Thank you again for your donated time, talents, and treasures. It is such a blessing to be part of a Church that enjoys fellowship with one another!

Vicar David

Monday Night Football

Join us at Bubba's Monday nights at 8:00pm to watch the game, check our Fantasy Football Scores, and enjoy an evening of fellowship.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Collection for this month's Bridgeville area food bank is Sunday October 13. The "item of the month" is baking supplies. You are also welcome to help at the food bank every third Saturday of the month between 7:45 and 12:00 at Bethany Presbyterian Church