



Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Tim Philabaum  
Community Pastor: Rev. Dr. Mike Brown  
Seminary Intern: Kevin O'Bryan  
Director of Music Ministries/Organist: Omaldo Perez  
Director of Youth Ministry: Madeline Thomas  
Director of Communications: Tamara Muncy  
Administrative Manager: Dale Nordahl  
Secretary: Suzanne DeLaney  
Custodian: Paul Cannon

WORSHIP  
SATURDAY 6:00 p.m.  
SUNDAY 7:15 a.m.  
8:30 a.m.  
11:00 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL  
(September—May)  
9:45 a.m.

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ORGANIZATION  
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PAID  
Permit No. 49  
Perrysburg, Ohio

CURRENT RESIDENT OR

#### Directions

##### From I-75 South:

Take the US-20/US-23 exit  
(exit number 193) toward  
PERRYSBURG/FREMONT.  
Then Turn left onto N.  
Sandusky St. (US-23/US-20)  
Zoar is about a mile ahead on  
the right side of the road.

##### From I-75 North:

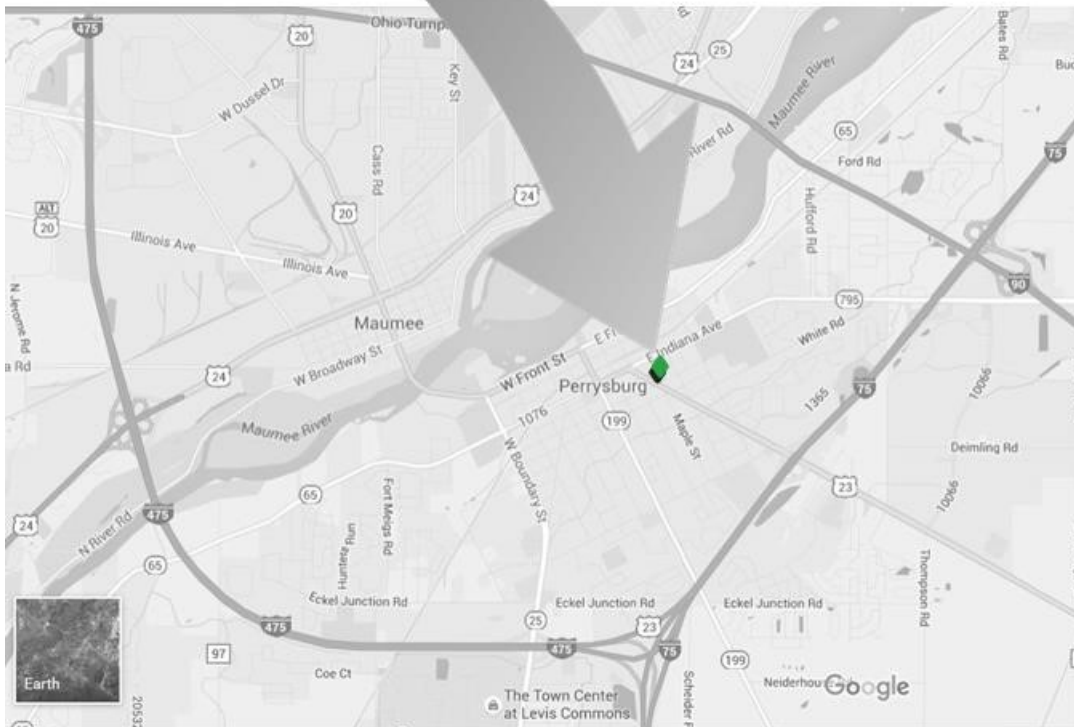
Merge onto Sandusky St/US-  
20 (exit number 193) toward  
PERRYSBURG/FORT MEIGS.  
Keep going straight. Zoar is  
about a mile ahead on the right  
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barrier-free community*



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**ZOAR**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH



**ZOARNEWS**

## BOWL GAMES, LIFE, & GOD'S LOVE

### INSIDE

#### WEEK OF PRAYER

Pg. 3

#### MOVIE NIGHT

Pg. 4

#### LOMO CAMPS

Pg. 5

#### YOUTH TRIP

Pg. 5

#### HAWAIIAN LUAU

Pg. 6

#### INTERN TO ISRAEL

Pg. 9



**ZOAR**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

On New Year's Day, 1929, Georgia Tech played UCLA in the Rose Bowl, a game made famous by Roy Riegels who recovered a fumble and ran sixty-five yards in the wrong direction. One of his teammates ran him down and tackled him just before he scored for the opposing team. During halftime, Coach Price said little except to say, "Men, the same team that played the first half will start the second." The players got up and started out, all but Riegels. The coach looked back and called to him. Riegels didn't move. Coach Price went over to where Riegels sat and said, "Roy, didn't you hear me?" Roy looked up, with tears in his eyes. "Coach," he said, "I can't do it. It's over."



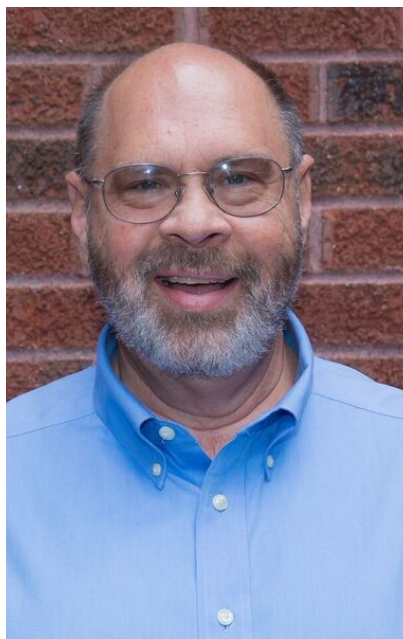
*Wrong Way Riegels heads for the wrong goal line.*

Most people have run the wrong direction at some time. We get turned around. We lose our bearing. We may even get caught in the process. It is a common experience. We may even feel that 'it's over.' But with God, it's never over. God is the God of second chances. Lamentations 3:21-23 reads "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." As your calendar turns to a new year, give some thought to what direction you are headed. Is it the right direction? However you answer, just know that God's mercies for you never end.

**314 E. Indiana Ave. Perrysburg, OH 43551**

**419.874.4346 [www.zoarlutheran.com](http://www.zoarlutheran.com)**





from  
Pastor Tim

Senior Pastor  
pastortim@zoarlutheran.com

Wise Gifts

Reflecting on gifts I have received over the years I am amazed at how many of them were appropriate to what I needed at the time. Some of them were clothing, others games, toys, cash, or time spent on trips. Whereas I never received an “ugly sweater,” I’ve recognized that better than the gift itself was/is the heart of the giver, even if the gift was not what I was expecting.

So, early in January we encounter a story of gifts. Mary and Joseph and their 2-yr old son, Jesus, are no longer in the stable, but in a house in Bethlehem. A knock on the door, and into their home walk some foreign people. These men “from the



East” (probably Persia) were considered wise, read the stars, and had learned that a King was born in Bethlehem. We don’t know how many there were, although tradition states that there were three, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. We know only that they brought three gifts, wise gifts, appropriate for Jesus.

As to One who is truly King, the gift of gold was given. The gift of frankincense, used as a fragrance of worship, was given to the One who is truly God. And because Jesus had come to die for the world, the gift of myrrh, an embalming ointment, was offered. Mary probably would have preferred a gift actually these three gifts important. They not only also identified the heart of love.

Ah, here’s the switch. It is received these gifts, but Gift. In Him is the fullness throughout eternity into Him God has wrapped arms peace completely around a hurting world. There is no fear, no worry, no guilt, only the amaZing love of God.

Brothers and sisters – you carry that same gift. Now that the craziness of Christmas is over, the world still needs to hear from you about this God, whose love for them (and for me) is full and complete. We are the ones with Good News. We are the ones with welcoming arms. We offer this amaZing love to a world in need.

Wise gifts. May someone receive this gift of love from your life, O Loved One!



card to Kroger, but were more identified Jesus but the giver, giving out of

not so much that Jesus rather that Jesus IS The of God’s love, reaching this time and place. In of forgiveness and

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Please contact Pastor Mike.  
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WORSHIP SERVANTS FOR JANUARY

<u>USHERS</u>		7:15	8:30	11:00	<u>SATURDAY USHERS</u>	
January	1				7	Terry & Rhonda Jones
	8				14	Dave & Lisa Richard
	15				21	Steve Doughten
	22				28	Cheryl Williams
	29					
<u>LECTORS</u>		7:15	8:30	11:00		
January	1	Janis Stein	Roger Geffe	Roger Shoffner		
	8	Dorothy Beyer	Karen Lundholm	Don Lieder		
	15	Judy Schult	Marie Obrock	Elizabeth Emmert		
	22	Ray Ruswinkle	Alice Coy	Ann Lieder		
	29	Janis Stein	Chuck Ackerman	John Henzeler		
<u>ACOLYTES</u>		8:30	11:00			
January	1					
	8	Aubrey Arndt, Sydney Doughten	Marc Baroncini			
	15	Grant Knowlton, Jacob Rickman	Jenna Rettig, Sydney Rettig			
	22	Ben Robeson, Chase Saneholtz	Andrew Swoap, Tyler Swoap			
	29	Deakon Cady, Peter Erlenbusch	Leah Schroeder, Raegan Thurn			
<u>ASSISTING MINISTERS</u>		7:15	8:30	11:00		
January	1					
	8		Roger Geffe			
	15	Dorothy Beyer	Carole Bohn	Don Lieder		
	22		Scott Geffe			
	29			Roger Shoffner		
<u>GREETERS</u>		8:30	11:00	<u>SATURDAY GREETERS</u>		
January	1			7		
	8			14		
	15			21		
	22			28		
	29					
<u>SOUND</u>		8:30	11:00	<u>SATURDAY SOUND CREW</u>		
January	1	Chuck Ackerman (10:00 am)		7	Doug Williams	
	8	Dave Sudman	Peter Cooper	14	Paul Yarian	
	15	Russ Baker	Spencer Tye	21	Steve Doughten	
	22	Martha Amstutz	Greg Tye	28	Ryan Williams	
	29	Carl Habekost	Tom Trimble			
<u>COUNTERS</u>						
January	1	Carole Welling, & Joyce Williams				
	8	Chuck & Nancy Elvers, Heidi & Derek Meyer				
	15	Glenn & Mary Ann Abke, Alice Coy				
	22	Nancy Heckman, Jane & Brian Tomko,				
	29	Jim Kwasniak, & Tom Dayton				
<u>ALTAR GUILD</u>		7:15	8:30	11:00		
January	1	Nadine Johnson (10:00 am)				
	8	Nadine Johnson	Karen Lundholm	Lisa Hoverson		
	15	Nadine Johnson	Tina Young	Carolyn St. Meyers		
	22	Linda Hagedorn	Connie Bricker	Marcia Amstutz		
	29	Vicki Karnes	Connie Miller	Elaine Cutcher		

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1	Jeanne Gantz	28	Marcelene Davis
6	Betty Fallon	29	Miriam Fansler
7	Lester Meier		
7	George Williams		
14	Ramona Abke		
25	Mearl Finch		
27	Donald Creps		
27	Paul Meyerholtz		



WORLD CLASS  
ROCK STAR  
MR. ORGANIST  
DAVID CHERWIEN

World Renowned Musician, David Cherwien,  
will perform at  
Zoar Lutheran Church  
on  
Sunday, February 12  
at  
4:00 p.m.



PRAY FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

You are invited to join in prayer, especially during January 18-25, as together we pray for the unity of the Church. This week has been chosen by the Church to center in on the unity we have in Jesus Christ, and the promise that soon we will live in that unity in its fullness.

In your prayers remember the many denominations that proclaim Jesus; remember the covenants we have with Methodists and Episcopalians; remember the astounding growth of connections with the Roman Catholics; remember the congregations in our town and area.

In your prayers remember the other faiths, and those who profess no faith, that there may be dignity, respect, and peace in our time.

And give thanks for what God is doing in our time!



from  
Omaldo  
Director of Music Ministries,  
Organist  
operez@zoarlutheran.com

As part of our journey in this Season of Light, I am inviting you to be part of a special event. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend Zoar on Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m., when renowned organist David Cherwien will be here to lead a hymn festival: we will sing and proclaim our faith in song and spoken word. It will be unforgettable.

Because this is a “Music with a Mission” concert and the offering will be dedicated to an external cause, we are looking for patrons who can help us defray the cost of bringing Dr Cherwien to Zoar. If you can help with \$50 or more, we would like to name you an official patron of the festival and have your name listed in the program. Please contact me for more information.

Thanks for your support.







## from Madeline

Director of Youth Ministry  
mthomas@zoarlutheran.com

I was recently adding photos from various youth and family ministry events from 2016 to my office door. I am so richly blessed by each of you and the smiles that you bring to my office and this community! Our youngest members constantly inspire me with their joy and enthusiasm for life. The elementary through college age youth are eager to contribute their many talents in service of God, and for every young person, there are even more parents, grandparents, and adult members who are willing to volunteer, offer support, and provide encouragement. Youth ministry is a team effort and I look forward to working with you all again in 2017!

## MOVIE NIGHT FOR KIDS & YOUTH NIGHT OUT FOR PARENTS

**Friday  
January 13th  
6:00-8:00 p.m.**

Join us in the Sunday School area for popcorn and a movie!

Wear your pajamas, bring a blanket and pillow!

We will be watching  
***The Secret Life of Pets!*** (rated PG)

Parents are welcome to stay and enjoy the movie.

However, childcare will be provided, free of charge. There will be a casual gathering of parents at Buffalo Wild Wings for those interested! More information coming soon.

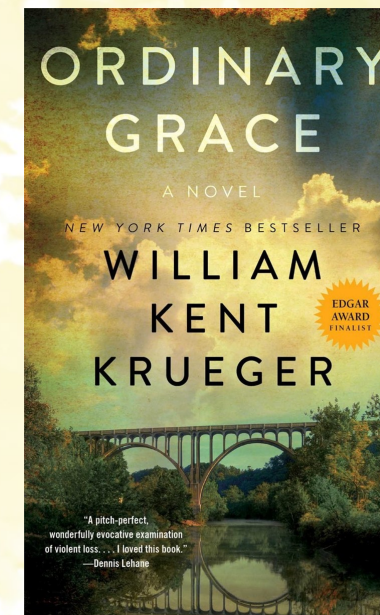


## SUMMER 2017 AT LOMO CAMPS

Ten Zoar families enjoyed time together at Camp Mowana in November. Lutheran Outdoor Ministries in Ohio offers lots of options for summer programming for youth and families of all ages. Take advantage of \$100 off new camper registration provided directly from LOMO as well as a matched \$100 discount from the Zoar Foundation Kurfis Fund. See Madeline for details on discounts. Check out [www.lomocamps.org](http://www.lomocamps.org) for more information!



## ZOAR BOOK CLUB



The Zoar Book Club will meet on January 6th to discuss the book *Ordinary Grace* by William Kent Krueger. For more information about the book club, contact Roger and Pam Shoffner at 419-931-4999.

## ONE FOR THE HISTORY BOOKS: HOW TRUMP DID IT

January 10

7:00 p.m.

Dr. Melissa Miller

Zoar Lutheran Church  
Sanctuary

## OH, THE PLACES YOU WILL GO! INTERN OFF TO ISRAEL

Greetings and Peace to you all!  
I am excited to share with

everyone that I will be

traveling this

January to  
the Holy

Lands!

Though I will

miss you all

dearly, I will

carry you

with me as I

spend 2½

weeks

overseas in

Israel. I love to travel, and this will be

the first time I have been out of the

country (Canada clearly does not

count when you are born in

Michigan).

This trip,

hosted by

Trinity

Lutheran

Seminary in

Columbus, is

not only a

wonderful

opportunity

to sight see

and be a

tourist, but also a

wonderful learning

opportunity and spiritual discipline

as I walk where Jesus and the

disciples walked. It will be

hosted by two brilliant professors

that I have previously studied under,

Professor Langknecht, who teaches

homiletics, and Professor Parker,

who teaches Old Testament.

With their guiding voices, as well as the  
voices of our tour guides who have a 30  
year relationship with Trinity Seminary,

it surely will be

educational as

well as inspiring.

We will be seeing

Caesarea,

Meggido,

Nazareth, the Sea

of Galilee, the Mt.

of Beatitudes,

Capernaum, Bet

She'an, Jericho,

Qumran,

Masada, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Mt.

Zion, and the Mt. of Olives.

During this time I ask for all of your

prayers of safe travel

and time in Israel, a

place known for

constant conflict. I am

going with 27 other

people including the

two professors, though

my wife Meghan will be

spending the time with

family and friends. I can

hardly contain the

excitement I feel for this

once in a lifetime opportunity, and will

be sharing my experience with all of

you once I return. Again, I ask for your

prayers of safe travel and for the Holy

Spirit to guide this pilgrimage.

Intern Kevin





# 7 HABITS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE ZOAR DISCIPLES



## GRATITUDE

Much has been written about the habits it takes to be a highly effective person. But what are the habits of a highly effective Christian? This article is the first of seven that puts basic Bible teaching in an easy to read format and provides us all with encouragement and direction on our walk with Jesus.

### Habit 1: Be Thankful

*“In everything give thanks; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus”*

— 1 Thessalonians 5:18

We’re talking about growing into an attitude of gratitude! What does giving thanks in “everything” mean for daily living? Did you notice the Bible does not say “be thankful *because* of everything” but “*in* everything.” We don’t thank God for our health problems like “I’ve got chronic pain, thanks God.” But we can say “Thank you God for being with me *in* my chronic pain.” With our eyes wide-open and searching for reasons to express thanks to God, our brains become rewired to accentuate the positive in life—the big things and the small things, the obvious and the not so obvious.

Try this: each day as you wake up or when you lie down at night, relax and pause. Be still and become aware of your breathing. Then, become aware of what brings you joy. What are you glad for? This doesn’t need to be a long period. Start with five minutes a day, every day.

## WELCOME TO YOUR NEW LIFE

The next round of new member classes will be offered starting January 19, 26, then February 12, 19. In this course, you will learn how to

- Feel closer to God
- Grow confident in faith
- Make new friends
- Look into Zoar’s future
- Join the crew

New Member Sunday will be February 26.

Pre-register via email to [pastormike@zoarlutheran.com](mailto:pastormike@zoarlutheran.com).

## ANNUAL MEETING 2016

January 29  
Sunday  
12:30 p.m.

### Altar Guild to meet Tuesday, January 24 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Altar Guild is looking for new members to join us in serving the Lord and preparing his house for worship. If you are interested in becoming a member or have questions, contact Nadine Johnson at [johnso@bgsu.edu](mailto:johnso@bgsu.edu) or attend our January meeting.

## SUMMER YOUTH TRIP MEETING

Zoar Youth will be taking an out-of-state trip next summer! We will have an informational meeting on **Wednesday January 25th at 7:30 p.m.** (after Confirmation). This is a meeting for any interested youth and their parents. This trip is open to 7th graders through 12th graders for the fall 2017 school year. More information about trip location, dates, and travel details will be announced in early January. See the youth bulletin board in the Gathering Area after January 8th for more information!



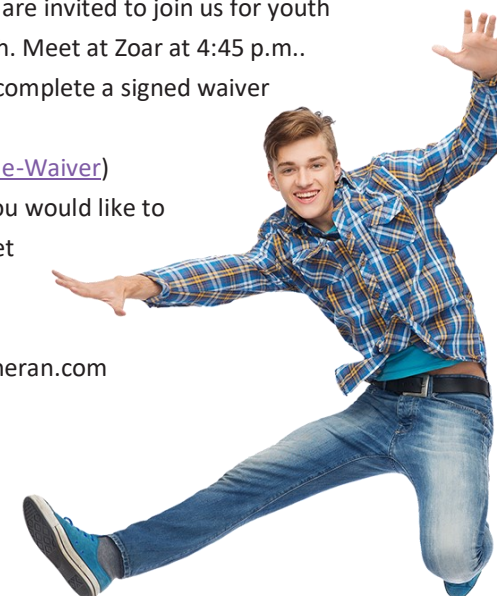
*We had a record number of youth at Third Sunday youth group helping to make bracelets for Feed Our Families!*

## YOUTH GROUP @ SKY ZONE

All youth and friends in 5th-12th grade are invited to join us for youth group at Sky Zone! Sunday January 29th. Meet at Zoar at 4:45 p.m.. Bring \$20 and have a parent/guardian complete a signed waiver form (available online only at

<http://www.skyzone.com/toledo/Online-Waiver>)

We will return to Zoar at 7:00 p.m. If you would like to assist with the parent carpool, please let Madeline know. Please RSVP to Madeline by Sunday January 22nd if you plan to attend. [mthomas@zoarlutheran.com](mailto:mthomas@zoarlutheran.com) or 419-270-6233.



## Youth Group Update

Youth Group meets weekly to gather, grow, and give as a community of young people living out the call to a life of faith. Join us!

### Sunday January 1st

No Youth Group  
Happy New Year!

### Sunday January 8th

5-7 p.m.  
High School Youth Group

### Sunday January 15th

Third Sunday Youth Group  
5-7 p.m.  
5th-12th Grade  
Group Games

### Sunday January 22nd

No Youth Group  
Madeline away at  
Youth Ministry Conference

### Sunday January 29th

Youth Group At Sky Zone  
Meet at Zoar at 4:45 p.m.  
5th-12th Grade  
Bring \$20  
Must RSVP and have signed waiver form

**Friends are always welcome!**





from

Pastor Mike

Community Pastor  
pastormike@zoarlutheran.com

As we turn the calendar to a new year, I am eager and ready for a terrific start. Zoar has so much going for it and so much that is right. One of the more exciting things I look forward to in the coming year is the opportunity to build a Fellowship Team. Zoar is a large church with lots of people. We see each other on Sundays and Saturdays as we gather to connect with God in worship. But it can be a challenge to connect well with each other. That is where the Fellowship Team comes in. This group is going to have the joy of planning and executing large events designed to bring people together for fun and food. I am looking for a half dozen people or so to join me in the effort. Who's in? Email me.



# HAWAIIAN LUAU

Saturday  
January 28  
7:00 p.m.

ALOHA!! Ready for a Hawaiian Get-Away? Fresh flower leis! Poi, Shoyu Chicken, Oven Roasted Kalua Pork, Pork Lau Lau and Tropical Dessert Bar! You're invited to sample the tastes and traditions of Hawaii at a Zoar Luau on Saturday, January 28 at 7:00 p.m. The \$15 adult ticket will benefit PCU Food Bank. Learn the hula from our guest instructor visiting from Hawaii and enjoy fruity mocktails for a night of great fun, games, prizes and authentic food. Guests are encouraged to wear their favorite Hawaiian shirt and flip-flops. Chase the winter blues away while supporting PCU. Tickets will be sold in early January or reservations can be made through the church office. For now . . . SAVE THE DATE!!



Lynn Cooper

A Hawaiian Luau at Zoar? What's with that? Longtime Zoar member Lynn Cooper was raised with her siblings in Kailua, Hawaii. She describes it as a sleepy beach town often listed on the Top Ten Best

Beaches of the USA, where

she spent many hours boogie boarding the beaches of O'ahu. She remembers President Obama as a fellow student (a few years older) on the campus of Punahou School (K-12). Lynn graduated from Miami University of Ohio and lived in Boston following graduation. She and husband, Dr. Chris Cooper, moved to the Toledo area in the summer of 1994 as they were

*"Behind me I heard a loud voice that sounded like a trumpet." — Revelation 1:10*

expecting their first of four children (Emily, Katherine, Johnathan and Peter) and immediately joined Zoar.

The Cooper family has volunteered and participated in many Zoar activities. For the past four years, they have partnered with the Scott & Judy Loehrke family (Allison, Abby, Lynne, Anna) to host and serve the Thanksgiving dinner at Zoar provided by Bob Evans. Through this event, Lynn became more familiar with the hunger issues confronting those in our community. This awareness led her to spearhead a fundraiser for the PCU Food Bank, at a time of year when supplies often run low.

Reaching to her Hawaiian roots, Lynn put together elements of a Hawaiian Luau as a fundraiser and adult fellowship event. The dinner, underwritten by the Zoar Foundation, includes many authentic Hawaiian dishes. Beautiful fresh flower leis will arrive with Lynn's mother, Lorrie Maland who will visit from Hawaii for the occasion.

Lorrie participates in two types of hula: Hula Kahiko and Hula Auana (ancient and modern). She works on occasion for the Pacific Islands Institute, which takes older adults on tours of the Hawaiian Islands and Fiji. Lorrie will share a hula dance at the luau, as well as teach one to female guests.

Reserved table tickets can be purchased through the church office or after weekend worship services. Please join us for this lovely benefit luau dinner on Saturday, January 28 at 7:00 p.m.

Hawaiian shirts are encouraged!!

