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Permit No. 49
Perrysburg, Ohio

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
Communications Director: 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.

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:

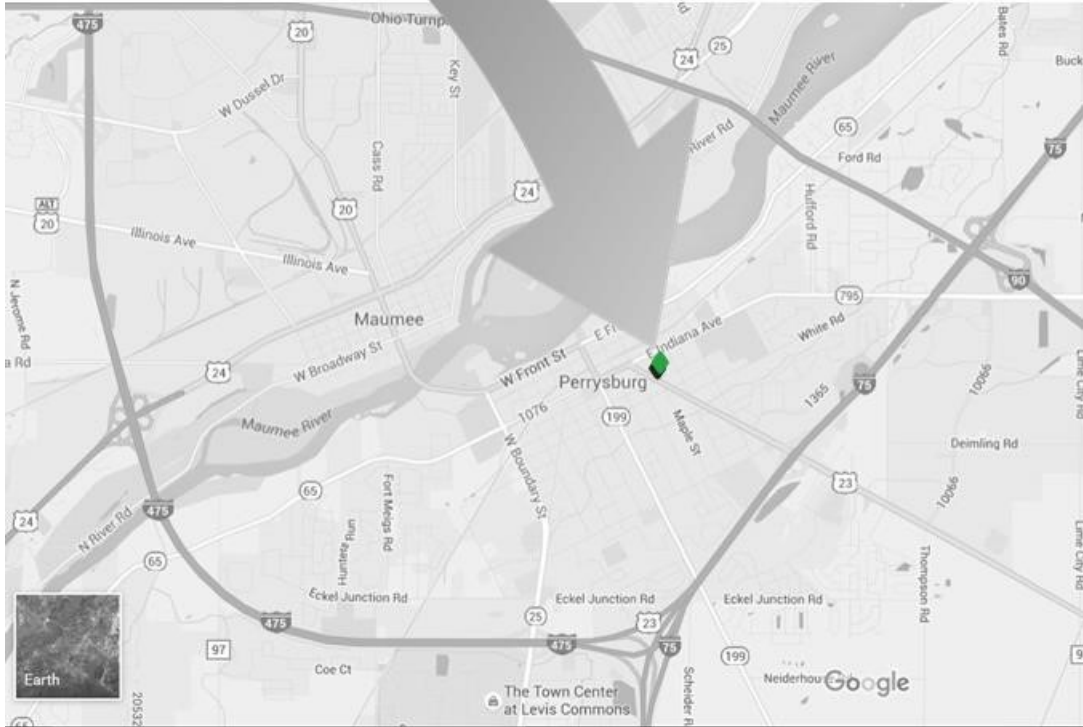
Merge onto Sandusky St/US-
20 (exit number 193) toward
PERRYSBURG/FORT MEIGS.
Keep going straight. Zoar is
about a mile ahead on the right
side of the road.

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barrier-free community*



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ZOAR
LUTHERAN CHURCH



ZOARNEWS

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YOU CAN CHANGE
THE WORLD

Imagine pulling \$5 dollars out of
your pocket to loan to a single
mother in Peru to buy chickens to
produce eggs to feed her children
and sell at market? Or, you loan a
struggling farmer in Cameroon a
small amount to purchase more

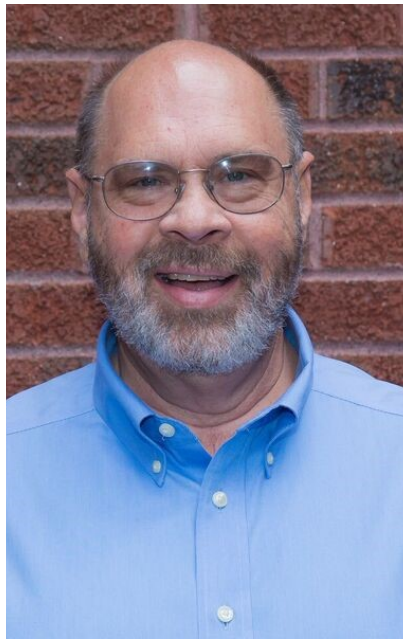


Cornelia in her backyard with her chickens.

seed for his garden to produce
enough to feed his family and have enough to take to market to sell for
school supplies. That is precisely what Zoar's Social Ministry
Committee does each month at its regular meeting. Each meeting
begins by collecting an offering that is then used to help change
people's lives around the world through what are known as micro-
loans. Brokered through KIVA (see KIVA.org), these small loans to
individuals living in developing countries help people rise above
poverty. The loans are made with no interest to the borrower for
amounts as low as \$25 for such items as garden seeds, farm animals
for small scale food production, building materials for home
improvement, educational tuition and supplies, and thousands more.
Each month, committee members hear a report about the individuals
whose lives have been changed by the small loans they made
possible. If you have an interest in social action, please speak to Shar
Cook at 419-874-5808. Shar and other members of the committee are
happy to talk about the many ways they have seen God at work.

314 E. Indiana Ave. Perrysburg, OH 43551

419.874.4346 www.zoarlutheran.com



from Pastor Tim

Senior Pastor
pastortim@zoarlutheran.com

Give up...give in...give?

Oh, no, I've started another program where I have to give something up! For some of us the "thing" we have to send away might be types/ amounts of food, or various activities, or how we spend our time. Some of us may need to actually stop those things that harm us or others. Self-discipline, denial, and delayed gratification are difficult in our culture and time.

Then we come to Lent. Beginning March 1, these 40 days help us prepare for Jesus' washing the feet of the disciple and



giving the bread/wine, Jesus taking the cross on our behalf, and Jesus rising from the tomb. 40 days (if you count them, remember that Sunday, the remembrance of *Resurrection*, are not included in the 40, but you still will not hear "alleluia" on Sundays!)

Many "give something up" during this time, like sweets, or meat, or Diet Coke. This may be helpful for you to get ready for Easter, but let's go deeper.

The Ash Wednesday "charge" is for us to walk these days in prayer, fasting, and giving of our offering. As you will hear on Ash Wednesday, that charge is also for us to do these actions in secret, not receiving praise from others. So let me offer you some thoughts as you plan to enter this Lenten journey:

- ✚ Instead of give up, give. Give of your time to a neighbor, or hospice, or a shelter. Give of your time to spend dedicated moments reading the Bible, or in prayer, or exploring Luther's Catechism. Give of your offering in ways that support God's mission. Give of your time to pass on the joy of Jesus.
- ✚ Explore giving something up. Take a meal time, or a day, and fast. Spend this fasting time in prayer, taking the money you would have used and give it away. Maybe even use this time to permanently give up something harmful. And, choose to forgive.
- ✚ Fast from electronics. (Wow!) Unplug yourself for a period from mass and social media, and spend that time in prayer.
- ✚ Make worship and "church" a priority, as together we serve each other.
- ✚ Follow my "40 Days of Tweets" @tphilabaum
- ✚ Above all, give up the self-doubt and self-hate, and hurt, and give into the truth that you are loved by the Loving God. Together we walk to the Cross and God's love.

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WORSHIP SERVANTS FOR MARCH

USHERS		7:15	8:30	11:00	SATURDAY USHERS
March	5	Bill King, Tom Vesey	Paul Dodge Ray Bricker Dean Hetrick	Chris Cooper Dave Buenting Pat Boyer Shere Lichtenwald	4 Dave & Lisa Richard
	12	"			11 Steve Doughten
	19	"			18 Cheryl Williams
	26	"			25 Jim Laine, Charlie Rinker
LECTORS		7:15	8:30	11:00	
March	5	Dorothy Beyer	Leigh Ann Meinecke	Teri Laurer	
	12	Judy Schult	Ann Richter	Cynthia Blubaugh	
	19	Ray Ruswinkle	Roger Geffee	Sonia Perez	
	26	Janis Stein	Karen Lundholm	Hazel Deuble	
ACOLYTES		8:30	11:00		
March	5	Marc Baroncini, Connor Haar	Aubrey Arndt, Sydney Doughten		
	12	Jenna Rettig, Sydney Rettig	Grant Knowlton, Jakob Rickman		
	19	Andrew Swoap, Tyler Swoap	Ben Robeson, Chase Saneholtz		
	26	Raegan Thurn	Deakon Cady, Peter Erlenbusch		
ASSISTING MINISTERS		7:15	8:30	11:00	
March	5		Scott Geffe		
	12		Carole Bohn	Don Lieder	
	19		Roger Geffe		
	26			Roger Shoffner	
GREETERS		8:30	11:00		SATURDAY GREETERS
March	5	M/M Johnson, Doris Henline	M/M Shoffner, J. Cooper, Gloria Odeggaard		4 Karen Schlatter
	12	M/M Heckman, Marcia Amstutz	Jeff & Nancy Wilbur, Vivian Corbin		11 Sondra Alexander
	19	Terry & Rhonda Jones, Arlene Hustwick	Ruth Alteneder, Lisa Hoverson		18 Janet & Bill Smith
	26	Lida Ryan, Connie & Ray Bricker	Jim & Diane Ninke, High School Youth		25 Dee Lowrie
SOUND		8:30	11:00		SATURDAY SOUND CREW
March	5	Russ Baker	Greg Tye		4 Doug Williams
	12	Chuck Ackerman	Martha Amstutz		11 Ryan Williams
	19	Dave Sudman	Peter Cooper		18 Steve Doughten
	26	Carl Habekost	Tom Trimble		25 Doug Williams
COUNTERS					
March	5	Glenn and Mary Ann Abke, Alice Coy			
	12	Carole Welling, Joyce Williams			
	19	Russ & Nancy Heckman, Jane Tomko			
	26	Jim Kwasniak, Tom Dayton			
ALTAR GUILD		7:15	8:30	11:00	
March	1	(11:00 am set up) Pat McNutt	(7:00 pm Towels) Nadine Johnson		
	5	Nadine Johnson; Linda Hagedorn	D. Ehrmin, S. Warren; V. Karnes	L. Hoverson; D. Besly; S. Todt	
	12	Linda Hagedorn	Vicki Karnes	Nancy Jack	
	19	Nadine Johnson	Dee Ehrmin	Carolyn St. Meyers	
	26	Linda Hagedorn	Mary Ann Abke	Donna Besly	

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 3

Vivian Corbin
- 5

Dorothy Hansen
- 6

Donald Underwood
- 8

Margaret Ford
- 18

Colleen Cichy
- 23

Dorothea Etue
- 28

Margaret Lusher



MUSIC ON THE HORIZON

Holy Week and Easter Sunday represent the apex of our communal life. With that in mind, Zoar is in for a real treat.

On Maundy Thursday, the Chancel Choir will sing the tuneful *In Remembrance* by Buryl Red, and a hypnotic setting of the text *Ave verum corpus*, composed by Will Todd.

For our Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday, we will hear *The Passion According to John* in a dramatic setting by Craig Phillips, and the Agape Bell Choir will help us meditate with a delicate treatment of *Were You There*.



As part of our historical emphasis for 2017, on Easter Sunday we will reach back to the 17th century. We will hear the last movement of the *Cantata Today God's Son Triumphs* by Dietrich Buxtehude, and fill our sanctuary with Alleluias.

LUAU A HUGE SUCCESS

We would like to say thank you and MAHALO to all the wonderful volunteers who helped make the first ever Zoar luau a success! Thanks go out to: Tom & Margie Iserman, Shar & Doug Cook, Maddie Thomas, Ken & Carolyn Vajen, Linda Hagedorn, Joyce & Dick Cox, Chris Cooper, Emily Cooper, Peter Cooper, Scott & Judy Loehrke, Sharon Schadek, Elaine Cutcher, Marie Obrock, Anna Loehrke, Leah Skyrniecki, Omaldo & Sonia Perez, Tom Trimble, Neil Engelhart, Connie Teare, Jeri Madsen, Rachel Wesley, Leigh Ann & Ken Meinecke, Dale Nordahl, Suzanne Delaney, Tim Philabaum, and Paul Cannon. Due to generous support from the Zoar Foundation and also Thrivent Financial, we were able to entertain and feed a sold out crowd. All proceeds went to the food bank through Perrysburg Christians United.



Joyce Grimshaw, Roger, Agathe, and Scott Geffe

Mahalo and aloha, Lynn Cooper and Kate Philabaum.



from
Omaldo

Director of Music Ministries,
Organist

Dear people of Zoar, this year our Lenten journey will have two primary emphases; both will be present in our music. One of our foci during the Forty Days will be the importance of Baptism as both a Sacrament of the Church and as a metaphor. The other will be Luther’s Small Catechism, which itself includes Baptism. The former will be reflected in images of life as a journey where we are continually dying and rising to life -- Luther’s famous quote comes to mind, “When you wash your face, remember your baptism.”; the later, in the singing and proclamation of the tenets of our faith and creedal identity. I wish you all a productive and fruitful season of Lent.





from Madeline

Director of Youth Ministry
mthomas@zoarlutheran.com

Lent is my favorite season of the church. I love the solemnity and space for reflection. And I especially love that here in the Midwest, it is during Lent that the first signs of Spring emerge. The days grow gradually longer and even though cold weather persists, buds are beginning to grow on the trees. These subtle clues remind us that even in the darkest of times, God is working and resurrection is on its way. I look forward to walking with Zoar youth and kids this Lenten season, as we explore God's call to 40 days of deepening our faith. There are lots of ways to join in on the journey! See this month's articles for details.



EASTER EGG HUNT

Save the date!

Saturday, April 15
10:00AM to Noon

The Easter Egg Hunt is open to children age 2 through 4th grade. No RSVP is necessary. This year will also feature an Easter celebration for Zoar youth in 5th grade and up!



LENTEN PCU FOOD COLLECTION



This Lent, Zoar youth and kids will be helping to collect food for Perrysburg Christians United Feed the 5000 program. After the first week of Lent, green reusable grocery bags will be given out during worship. Please fill the bags with canned meat, cereal, or toiletry items. Filled bags can be returned to the Live Generously cabinets in the Gathering Area. Zoar youth will sort and deliver the donations. If each bag is returned filled, we have potential to collect over 1,250 pounds of needed items for our community! The bags are provided as part of a Thrivent Action Team grant.

YOUNG FAMILIES GATHER & GROW



On February 5, 16 of our youngest members received storybook Bibles! It was great to have 10 families gather after worship and to see so much life and growth gathered in the same place! If you have a child, birth to age 3, who hasn't received a Bible yet, please let Madeline know. Have a child over age 3 who would like a Bible? Register for Sunday School! Each of our Sunday School families has a Spark Bible for at-home learning. Bibles are a gift from the Zoar Foundation Kurfis Fund. New members will receive a Bible at baptism.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

March 11

The Social Ministry Committee at Zoar is hosting a blood drive on Saturday, March 11 from 8:00-2:00. The Red Cross has been experiencing a blood emergency with supplies critically low. If you are able to donate (have not donated since January 24, 2017), you can make an appointment by going to Redcross.org and under "find a drive" click on the Zoar drive. You can also make an appointment by calling Karen Charles at 419-878-5366.

ZOAR AT THE MOVIES



Watch
— *The Shack* —
in theaters now!

Then join our
Potluck & Discussion
Sunday
March 5
4 PM
Family Life Center



Nicole Slovak Photography

Charlie and Melissa Kocis with Grant and Owen

After eight years of membership, Melissa says that what she likes most about Zoar is how welcoming it is and how involved Zoar is in the community.

YOU MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

The Social Ministry Committee has selected the Summer Youth Program at Redeemer Lutheran Church as the recipient of our donations and offerings from special Lenten donations at Sunday School and Wednesday Lenten meals. This program is eight weeks in the summer for children age 3 to 14 years old. As a part of Summer Youth Program, children are provided a breakfast and lunch, Bible study, crafts, outside play, music, and other enrichment activities. In the past few years, over 70 children from some of the

most distressed neighborhoods in Toledo have participated. Leigh Ann Meineke will be coordinating the program again this year. The funds we provide will go a long way in making sure this program is beneficial for all those involved. With a goal of \$4,000, Zoar can bring relief to our neighbors in and around Redeemer.



7 HABITS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE ZOAR DISCIPLES



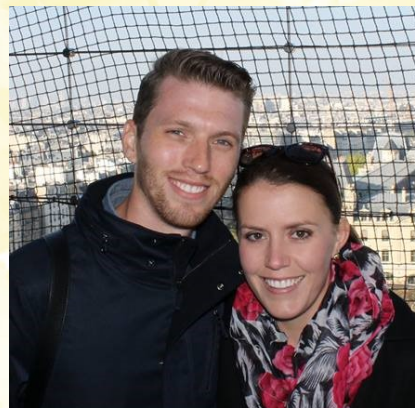
3. Contentment

We live in a world of obsession with material possessions. Far too many of us find ourselves in debt because we've been swept up in the frenzy of accumulation. In our consumerist society, it is difficult to distinguish between our needs and our wants and desires. We often believe that the more money we have, the happier we will be. There's an interesting paradox when we finally recognize that nothing we have really belongs to us. Even though we have many things, none of them actually belongs to us.

As we come to understand that everything belongs to God, our perspective changes...we become more content. *"Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, ..."* (Hebrews 13:5). A Zoar disciple learns contentment through the knowledge that God will provide everything that is needed. We wrestle with the question, "How much is enough?" most of our lives. What is the limit? As Christians, we need to actively seek God's guidance to help us continually differentiate between our real needs, and our wants and desires. Accept God's provision in your life, and find contentment in the source, not the supply. (1 Timothy 6: 6-8).



NEW LIFE GROUPS



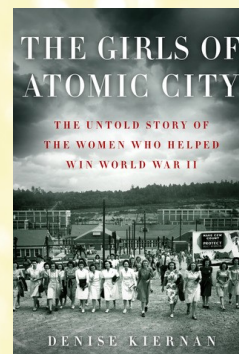
Rick and Amanda Martin

If you are newly married or soon to be married, please consider becoming part of this new Zoar Life Group: Young Couples. A Life Group is simply a small group of people in similar life situations who meet once a month to develop friendships, grow in faith, and support one another.

Please contact Pastor Mike at pastormike@zoarlutheran.com to connect or learn more about the Young Couples group.

BOOK CLUB

March 3
Noon



JUNIOR HIGH CHARGE

Great Wolf Lodge, Traverse City
March 24-26, 2017

Our high school youth and young adults have enjoyed going to the Michigan Gathering for years. But this year is the first-ever Junior High Gathering! We're so excited to be taking a group of 10 Junior

High Youth to Traverse City from March 24th-26th. There, we will have worship, small groups, congregational time, workshop sessions, and a campfire worship, as well as time in fellowship at Great Wolf Lodge. We'll be excited to share more from this energizing retreat once we return! Still want to register? See Madeline for details.



Zoar Youth Group on a recent outing to Sky Zone. Youth Group is a great way to invite friends to church and grow together as a group! Check it out on Sunday nights, 5-7 PM

YOUTH LENTEN MEAL



Zoar Youth will be hosting the Lenten Meal during dinner on March 22nd. We will need youth to volunteer to set up, serve, and clean up. Have an awesome family soup recipe? Love to bake? We will need soup and bread donations, too! Please let Madeline know if you can help! Youth participating in this summer's trip to Colorado can earn covenant service points for helping out with this project.

Youth Group Update

Sunday March 5th
High School Youth Group
5-7 PM Zoar Top Floor
Peer Ministry Leadership session

Sunday March 12th
High School Youth Group
5-7 PM Zoar Top Floor
Snacks, discussion, and a Bible Study devotion (outside if weather permitting)

Sunday March 19th
Third Sunday Youth Group
5th-12th Grade
5-7 PM in the FLC
Snacks, group games, and Lenten activity/prayer stations

Sunday March 26th
No Youth Group due to JH Charge

Sunday April 2nd
No Youth Group due to Spring Break

Sunday April 9th
No Youth Group- Holy Week

Sunday April 16th
No Youth Group- Easter

Sunday April 23rd
Youth Group Movie Night
5th-12th Grade

Sunday April 30th
High School Youth Group
Service Project- TBD



from

Pastor Mike

Community Pastor
pastormike@zoarlutheran.com

This March 22 makes the end of my first year serving along side you at Zoar. And I must say “thank you”. It has been a productive year together. As “Community Pastor” my time has been pretty evenly spread between working with 1) the Social Ministry Committee on all kinds of social justice concerns, 2) church growth in working with new members, and 3) building Christian community within Zoar through Life Groups and stewardship. There’s no telling where Jesus is leading us together but like the people of old we can be confident that it is a land of blessing.



ASHES FOR ALL

Ash Wednesday
March 1

Ash Wednesday begins our 40-day journey. With ashes “imposed” on our foreheads, we hear the words, “remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” Faced with our mortality, we then hear the charge to act out our Lenten discipline with prayer, and fasting, and giving of offering. The gift and grace of Holy Communion is then offered.

March 1 – Ash Wednesday

7am – Brief Communion with Ashes

11am & 7pm – Imposition of Ashes
and Holy Communion

Noon — Lunch

5:30pm to 7pm — Supper

CHILDCARE PROVIDED

Zoar’s nursery will be open and staffed for the Ash Wednesday service. Bring your entire family to this once a year experience of spiritual renewal.



March
1

remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return

WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT

The post-Ash Wednesdays in Lent will be a time during which we will focus in on Luther’s Small Catechism. Since this year is the 500th Anniversary of the beginning of the Reformation, we will use this Lenten time to grow deeper in the key elements of our faith. You are welcome to pick up a booklet entitled, *Free Indeed: Devotions for Lent 2017*. This resource is a daily devotional for Lent based on the Small Catechism. The schedule changes for these next 5 Wednesdays. There will be an **11am Worship Service, and a 6:30pm Service**. Both of these will be held in the Family Life Center. During that hour we will eat together a simple meal of soup and bread, hear the word and proclamation, and spend some time in discussion at our table. So the totality of meal and service will be held at the tables in the FLC during these times. The schedule includes:

March 8 – the Ten Commandments

March 15 – The Lord’s Prayer

March 22 – The Apostle’s Creed

March 29 – Holy Baptism

April 5 – Holy Communion

