



Be
AmazEd!

JULY 2017

ZOARNEWS



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ZOAR
LUTHERAN CHURCH

PRAYER THAT CHANGES YOU

The Bible really encourages you to keep at it with your prayers. For example: “*Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers*”—Ephesians 6:18b (NLT). But why? Why should you be persistent in your prayers, even when you don’t get an answer? Here are four reasons.



1) Persistent prayer focuses your attention.

When you pray a prayer request over and over, it’s not to remind God. He doesn’t need to be reminded! It’s to remind yourself who the source of your answer and all your needs is. If every prayer you ever prayed were instantly answered, two things would be true. First, prayer would become a weapon of destruction in your life. And, you’d never think about God, because he would become a vending machine. If every time you prayed you instantly got results, all you’d think about is the blessing. God wants you to think about the one giving the blessing.

2) Persistent prayer clarifies your request.

A delayed answer gives you time to clarify exactly what you want and to refine your prayers. When you pray persistently to God and you say

Cont’d on pg 9

314 E. Indiana Ave. Perrysburg, OH 43551

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from Pastor Tim

Senior Pastor

pastortim@zoarlutheran.com

Freedom. There are different stages when I had a sense of personal freedom. I remember the first time I was given the car to go by myself (with a friend) to a movie. I could drive! I had freedom behind the wheel! Also great were those early college days, when it seemed like I was truly free from what had been my life at home.

But, as you know, with freedom comes responsibility. And I have learned to freedom works best when there are limits and boundaries. The freedom and joy of being married and having children taught me the



responsibilities of fatherhood; the freedom and gift of a job and later a call into ministry strengthened not only the freedom of an adult, but the responsibility to serve in that freedom. Gift...responsibility...joy... freedom.

Some of what we do this month is to give thanks for the freedom in which this country shares. The men and women who serve and gave of their lives teach us that freedom is not free, but is costly. In our day, with the strife and culture it seems in the name of “American Ex- constantly freedom a does not protectionism, veterans served each day to live that freedom, so



polarization of our that freedom is eroded security, or of fear. This periment” needs to be strengthened, so that home and in the world, devolve into isolation, or division. As our for freedom, we need the gifts and rights of that all may be blessed.

Ah, then it comes down to the center. We are truly free because the cost has been paid at the cross. We are truly free from sin, death, and the devil (Luther’s words) and guilt because God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son, Jesus. Price is paid. Gift is ours. So, sisters and brothers, how do you live out your freedom? Our calling as Americans (and as world citizens) is to accept the gifts, responsibilities, and limits of that freedom on behalf of all people, regardless of any label that is put on them. Our calling as Christians is the same, knowing we are The Beloved, and in Christ’s name to serve the poor, the outcast, the different, the foreigner. For both, freedom leads to service, to real life, to love.

May you be blessed, oh freed and loving people!

OUTDOOR WORSHIP

July 2
Sunday 10:00 AM

Sunday, July 2, Zoar will gather with our sisters and brothers at the backyard of Lutheran Church of the Master, for our 10am Worship service. This will be the only service that day (we will have our normal Saturday night 6pm service on July 1). We ask you to bring either lawn chairs or blankets for you sitting in this celebratory service. We will join to give thanks for the gift of community, for the gift of Jesus, for the gift of summer, for the gift of this land. Come and share in this time of worship.



WEEKDAY BIBLE READINGS

The daily Bible readings expound further on the Sunday readings, with the Thursday through Saturday readings preparing for the upcoming Sunday readings and the Monday through Wednesday readings reflecting on the readings from the previous Sunday. Many Christians find the daily readings to be a helpful tool throughout the week.

Saturday, July 1

Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18
Jeremiah 28:1-4
Luke 17:1-4

1 Kings 21:1-16
1 Thessalonians 4:9-12

Tuesday, July 4

Psalm 119:161-168
1 Kings 21:17-29
1 John 4:1-6

Monday, July 3

Psalm 119:161-168



from
Omaldo

Director of Music Ministries,
Organist

operez@zoarlutheran.com

Here is an ancient, rich, and inspiring meditation for July: Had we but true understanding, what duty would be more perpetually incumbent upon us than to hymn the Divine Power, both openly and in secret, and to tell of all his benefits? Ought there not be some to fulfill this duty, and sing the praise of God on behalf of all men? What shall I do but sing hymns to God? Were I a nightingale I would do the part of a nightingale; were I a swan, I would do as a swan. But I am a reasonable being, and I ought to praise God. This is my work. I will never desert this post as long as I am permitted to hold it; and I beseech you to join in this self-same song."

— Peace, Omaldo



Cont'd pg. 8



from Madeline

Director of Youth Ministry
mthomas@zoarlutheran.com

Thank you all for the support these last few months! In case you haven't heard, I will be moving to Colorado for a new job in early August and Jeff and I are getting married September 16th! My last Sunday at Zoar will be July 30th. Life transitions are bittersweet and leaving this amazing community is one of the most difficult things I've had to do. Youth Ministry simply doesn't happen without the support and encouragement of an entire congregation and I truly appreciate yours! I have learned so much in the past year and a half; Zoar will always hold a special place in my heart. While I am sad to leave, I am excited for the future Zoar has with such great youth and families, in growing numbers! Blessings!

Vacation Bible School Is Almost Here!

July 10th-14th 2017
9:00 AM- Noon



Online registration is still open for this summer's Vacation Bible School! Visit www.zoarlutheran.com for the registration link. It's quick and easy!

Click on the orange scrolling banner on the home page.

July Is Jam-Packed with Kid-Friendly Fun!

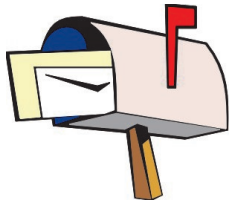
We have some special plans for Vacation Bible School this year!

- Mixed age crews! This family-style set-up empowers older kids to be leaders and keeps our youngest kiddos well-cared for.
- We're planning some fun partnerships with Imagination Station! Tuesday morning will feature an EXTREME SCIENCE demonstration by Imagination Station staff! Come see some amazing experiments! This programming will be for those registered for VBS only.
- Ice Cream Social featuring SpokeFolk! Our annual staples of ice cream and inflatable fun will be joined by a special performance by SpokeFolk, a traveling bike ministry by high school and college age youth. Their music, skits, and more will have important messages for our youth and families! Don't worry, we'll still have Hero's Inflatables from 6:00-7:00 for big and little kids alike!

All Church Ice Cream Social
Thursday July 13, 2017
6:00-8:00 PM
Zoar Family Life Center
All are welcome!

SEND US A POSTCARD!

Headed away for an exciting summer adventure? Whether you'll be gone for a weekend or for a month, to a faraway land or just across the state line, we'd love to hear about your summer adventures! Address a postcard from your destination to:



Zoar Lutheran Summer 2017
314 E. Indiana Avenue
Perrysburg, Ohio 43551

Share your favorite memories, or what God is up to at your destination! Drop it in the mail and we'll add it to our wall in the Gathering Area!

THANK YOU TO OUR STOCKHOLDERS

Youth Stock Sale raised **\$2,423.00** and counting!

Many thanks to the following people who have supported our youth as they prepare for their summer trip to Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp:

Mike and Brody Schuppenies
Carole and Randy Bohn
Tom and Margie Iserman
Dave and Joanne Musteric
Dave Wise
Ken and Debbie Widdel
Steffan and Melissa Webb
Linda Ruetz
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Tom and Anne Downs
Charles and Karen Lundholm
Roseanne Roth
Ruth Alteneder
Lindsay and Jameson Czech
Jim and Diane Ninke
Barb Siebenaler
Tom Berkebile
Various anonymous donors

If you contributed to the Stock Sale by purchasing an envelope, but your name is missing from this list, please see Madeline to correct our records.

STOCKHOLDER'S LUNCHEON
Sunday July 30th at Noon in the FLC

Sky Ranch Youth Trip



It's finally here! Please pray for our 31 youth and 7 adult leaders who will be flying to Denver, Colorado then adventuring to Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp in the Rocky Mountains. The group leaves July 16th and returns July 21st. While at Sky Ranch, youth will spend time worshipping, hiking, and digging deep in their faith. The group will share about their experiences during 11:00 worship on July 23rd and at the Stockholder's Luncheon on July 30th after worship.

We will not have cell phone service or wi-fi during this trip. If you need to reach someone during the week, please call the Sky Ranch office phone at (970)881-2113.





from

Pastor Mike

Community Pastor
pastormike@zoarlutheran.com

Oddly enough one of my favorite times of the week at Zoar comes on Thursday morning. It's not a time of Bible study, or prayer, or deep conversations about spiritual matters. Thursday mornings is when the delivery truck comes with food for Feed Our Families. I suppose it is a combination of the excitement I felt when mom came home from shopping for groceries and the days when I worked in a grocery store in high school and college. Whatever it is, I get a lot of satisfaction out of the simple act of being a part of the distribution of food to those who are ready to eat. I bet you would to. Come join us Thursday!



LET'S END

Feed Our Families is Zoar's major annual summer effort to end local hunger and began June 9 in the Family Life Center. Families and children on free and reduced meals during the school year are eligible to participate in the program. Remarkable in many ways, *Feed Our Families* combats hunger by providing an on site meal at the FLC for all who come. Even more, the FLC is stocked as a grocery store where people use shopping carts to gather a week's worth of groceries for their family. Last year, *Feed Our Families* provided over 23,000 meals to the local community. Today, you can help end hunger.

To join the team for even just part of a day or simply to ask questions, please call Tracy Rickman at 419-206-7927 or Cynthia Blubaugh at 419-376-1851.

CAN YOU CARRY A BOX?

One of the easiest ways to join the crew of Feed Our Families is simply to help carry boxes of food from the delivery truck into the building. The truck arrives every Thursday, normally after 10:00 am. You can either show up at 10:00 or simply wait to be called when the truck arrives. Another great way to help is by putting the bagged groceries into our shoppers cars on Fridays between 12:30 and 2:30.



To join the team for even just part of a day or simply to ask questions, please call Tracy Rickman at 419-206-7927 or Cynthia Blubaugh at 419-376-1851.

HUNGER TODAY



JOIN THE FIGHT IN WITH ZOAR

The numbers are rough. Ohio now ranks third in the nation for families forced to skip meals or eat less because they didn't have the money or resources to put food on their table. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, 7.5 percent of Ohio households experienced "very low food security." That's worse than every state but Arkansas and Missouri.

The Toledo Northwestern Food Bank reports that in the area served by the Food Bank, which includes Wood County, 1 in 6 face food insecurity, and 1 in 4 children face food insecurity.

There are many different

faces of hunger, including working adults, recently unemployed, people in poor health and uninsured, and people with and without homes.

- 18 percent of food insecure households include grandparents who have responsibility for grandchildren who live with them
- 12 percent of food insecure households have no income, 38 percent have annual incomes of \$1 to \$10,000, and 33 percent have annual incomes of \$10,001 to \$20,000
- 32 percent of households report choosing between paying for food and paying for school loans, tuition, or other

educational expenses at least once in the past 12 months; 15 percent face this choice every month

- 63 percent of households report choosing between paying for food and paying for medicine or medical care at least once in the past 12 months; 36 percent face this choice every month.



Tracy Rickman



SOMETHING BIG IS COMING YOUR WAY

You'll want to put this on your calendar now. On September 17 (from 5-7), September 27 (6-8pm), and September 30 (11-1pm), Zoar is hosting a series of three meals at the French Quarter at the Holiday Inn to introduce a Fall campaign called Transformed by Grace, Faith, & Love.. Sign-up and registration will begin September but save the date today!

Transformed by
**GRACE
FAITH
& LOVE**

"And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work."

— 2 Corinthians 9:8

DIGGING FOR ADVENTURE



Ever wonder why we have different stories about Jesus Christ in our Gospels? How is it that we profess these accounts as being true when there are apparent contradictions? Join us in the Conference Room.

August 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th at 9:45 am

We'll explore these questions and many more. Each Sunday in August, we will be exploring Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John and their four very different ideas and perspectives surrounding the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. What we will find is that each Gospel looks upon this holy story from a different angle, and when read together we get a more holistic picture of Jesus Christ's ministry. Inevitably, one of these perspectives speaks to our life and faith more pointedly than the others. Some people love Mark's depiction of the disciples, while others prefer the abstract spiritual nature found in John.

Wednesday, July 5

Psalms 119:161-168
Jeremiah 18:1-11
Matthew 11:20-24

Thursday, July 6

Psalms 145:8-14
Zechariah 1:1-6
Romans 7:1-6

Friday, July 7

Psalms 145:8-14
Zechariah 2:6-13
Romans 7:7-20

Saturday, July 8

Psalms 145:8-14
Zechariah 4:1-7
Luke 10:21-24

Monday, July 10

Psalms 131
Jeremiah 27:1-11, 16-22
Romans 1:18-25

Tuesday, July 11

Psalms 131
Jeremiah 28:10-17
Romans 3:1-8

Wednesday, July 12

Psalms 131
Jeremiah 13:1-11
John 13:1-17

Thursday, July 13

Psalms 65:[1-8] 9-13
Isaiah 45:1-5
Romans 2:12-16

Friday, July 14

Psalms 65:[1-8] 9-13
Isaiah 48:6-11
Romans 15:14-21

Saturday, July 15

Psalms 65:[1-8] 9-13
Isaiah 52:1-6
John 12:44-50

Monday, July 17

Psalms 92
Leviticus 26:3-20
1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

Tuesday, July 18

Psalms 92
Deuteronomy 28:1-14
Ephesians 4:17-5:2

Wednesday, July 19

Psalms 92
Proverbs 11:23-30

Thursday, July 20

Psalm 86:11-17
 Isaiah 41:21-29
 Hebrews 2:1-9

Friday, July 21

Psalm 86:11-17
 Isaiah 44:9-17
 Hebrews 6:13-20

Saturday, July 22

Psalm 86:11-17
 Isaiah 44:18-20
 Matthew 7:15-20

Monday, July 24

Psalm 75
 Nahum 1:1-13
 Revelation 14:12-20

Tuesday, July 25

Psalm 75
 Zephaniah 3:1-13
 Galatians 4:21-5:1

Wednesday, July 26

Psalm 75
 Daniel 12:1-13
 Matthew 12:15-21

Thursday, July 27

Psalm 119:129-136
 1 Kings 1:28-37
 1 Corinthians 4:14-20

Friday, July 28

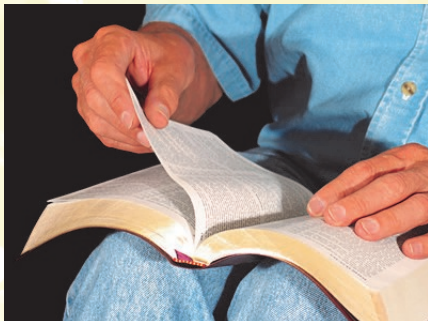
Psalm 119:129-136
 1 Kings 1:38-42
 Acts 7:44-53

Saturday, July 29

Psalm 119:129-136
 1 Kings 2:1-4
 Matthew 12:38-42

Monday, July 31

Psalm 119:121-128
 1 Kings 3:16-28
 James 3:13-18



WHY ZOAR?



Lon, Easton, Hayes, Kristin, Brooks Muir

"We like Zoar because of all the family-friendly activities and services."

cont'd from page 1

something over and over again, it separates deep longings from mere whims. It says, "God, I really care about this." It's not that God doesn't want to answer your prayers. He does. It's just that he wants you to be certain that that's what you really want.

3) Persistent prayer tests your faith.

James 1:3-4 says, *"When your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing"* (NLT). The only way you can grow to spiritual maturity is to have your faith tested. One of the ways God's going to test your faith is by delaying some answers to your prayers. Persistent prayer prepares your heart for the answer.

4) When you make a request of God, God almost always wants to answer in a bigger and better way than you've prayed.

Sometimes God denies your prayer requests because you're thinking and asking too small. He wants to give you something bigger and better. But first, he has to prepare you for it. So God uses delays in answering prayer to help you grow, to help you get ready, to help prepare you for a bigger and better answer. Remember, *"God can do much, much more than anything we can ask or imagine"* —Ephesians 3:20b (NCV).

WORSHIP SERVANTS FOR JULY

USHERS

July Ray Ruswinkle
Sharon Ruswinkle

7:15

8:30

Dean Hetrick

11:00

Chris Cooper
Dave Buenting
Bill Rickman
Tracy Rickman

SATURDAY USHERS

1 Jim Laine, Charlie Rinker
8 Ken & Carolyn Vajen
15 Dave & Sue Gogel
22 Judy Cooper, Gloria Odegaard
29 Terry & Rhonda Jones

LECTORS

July 2 Janis Stein
9 Dorothy Beyer
16 Judy Schult
23 Ray Ruswinkle
30 Janis Stein

7:15

8:30

Roger Geffe
Karen Lundholm
Marie Obrock
Alice Coy
Chuck Ackerman

11:00

Rachel Abke
John Henzeler
Lee Rupert
Melissa Miller
Neil Englehart

ACOLYTES

July 2
9 Leah Schroeder
16 Mitchell Smith
23 Sydney Doughten
30 Jacob Rickman

8:30

11:00

Raegan Thurn
Calista Grantham
Aubry Arndt
Grant Knowlton

ASSISTING

MINISTERS

July 2
9 Dorothy Beyer
16
23 Ray Ruswinkle
30

7:15

8:30

Roger Geffe
Carole Bohn
Scott Geffe

11:00

Don Lieder

Roger Shoffner

GREETERS

July 2 Paul & Nancy Smithers, Marcia Amstutz
9 Tom & Margie Iserman, Sharla Cook
16 D. Sahloff, D. Current, D. Henline
23 Glenn & Mary Ann Abke, Karen Lundholm
30 Michael & Kelly Johnson, Cindy Silvis

8:30

11:00

Dave & Denise Matthews
Kathi and Jordan Saleh, High School Youth
Connie Teare, Richard Hazle, Keith Robeson
Jeff & Nancy Wilbur, Vivian Corbin
Roger & Pam Shoffner, J. Cooper, G. Odegaard

SATURDAY GREETERS

1 Dave & Lisa Richard
8 Karen Schlatter
15 Sondra Alexander
22 Cheryl Williams, Ellen Williams
29 John & Becky Hoge

SOUND

July 2 (10:00) Doug Williams
9 Dave Sudman
16 Russ Baker
23 Vince Krolak
30 Chuck Ackerman

8:30

11:00

Greg Tye
Spencer Tye
Peter Cooper
Tom Trimble

SATURDAY SOUND CREW

1 Doug Williams
8 Carl Habekost
15 Doug Williams
22 Martha Amstutz
29 Ryan Williams

COUNTERS

July 2 Carole Welling, Joyce Williams
9 David Sudman, Dan Bartels
16 Jim Kwasniak, Tom Dayton
23 Chuck & Nancy Elvers, Derek & Heidi Meyer
30 Glenn & Mary Ann Abke, Alice Coy

ALTAR GUILD

July 2 (10:00) Lisa Hoverson
9 Linda Hagedorn
16 Karen Lundholm
23 Linda Hagedorn
30 Nadine Johnson

7:15

8:30

Connie Bricker
Vicki Karnes
Andrea Rex
Connie Bricker

11:00

Elaine Cutcher
Nancy Jack
Mary Ann Abke
Carolyn St. Meyers

JULY BIRTHDAYS

7/1 Marilyn Brossia
7/7 Jane Smith
7/13 Nadine Hartzog
7/16 Robert Naveaux
7/20 Gaye Daur
7/22 Neil Thomford
7/23 William Blecke
7/23 Rosa Williams
7/27 Allyn Rollo
7/29 Betty Henry
7/29 Marian Meyerholtz



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

CURRENT RESIDENT OR

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.

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

