



*Be*  
**AmaZed!**

SEPTEMBER 2017

# ZOARNEWS



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**ZOAR**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

## HALT DEINE LEDERHOSEN FEST!

**Hold on to your lederhosen!**

To celebrate the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation, Zoar is having German-Fest on Saturday, September 9 from 6pm – 10pm. The evening will be full of family fun including live German music and dancing. The fantastic Sorgenbrechers from Frankenth will lead a great night of polka and other dance music.

Food will include authentic German fare such as bratwurst, sauerkraut, potatoes and streudel, catered by the Black Forest Café located in Oak Shade Grove (Toledo German-American festival). The brats are smoked and the entertainment is abounding! Dig out that pair of lederhosen from the back of your closet and get ready to celebrate Bavarian style!

Tickets are on sale now from the church office. Call 419-874-4346. All ages and dance abilities are welcome! Ein Prosit!!! Ziggy Zocky Ziggy Zocky Oi! Oi! Oi!!!



*"Praise his name with the polka!  
Praise him with the oompa band!"*

*Psalm 149:3*

**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

*"O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good, and God's mercy endures forever!"*

After a parched day, clouds gather, and with loud thunder and explosive lightening God waters the earth. Drops of refreshment and delight fall from the sky, cleansing the atmosphere, renewing the earth, and bringing creation-grace. Then, when the situation is right, God takes God's paintbrush and wipes a series of color across the sky: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, violet. I am in awe of God's goodness.

In the midst of days with worry/stress, there often is a blessing of one with love, who



shares God's grace. This gift may come in a kind word or deed, or a forgiveness give or received, or in the strength of an affirmation. But it is God's gift, given in grace. I am in awe of God's goodness.

After the bounty of summer, September comes. Again God takes out God's palette and wipes orange on pumpkins, red and yellow on leaves, bronze on wheat. Cooler days and deeper evenings prevail. I am in awe of God's goodness.

Sometimes joy shows up in families too. Children grow and become parents. Grandparents delight in the next generation. The communion of Zoar is blessed by additions, and grieves the subtractions, but God continues to work through this Body of Christ. Sometimes there is pain, loss and dysfunction also in families, but even then, God is faithful. all these changes. I

Then, oh then, at Jesus, the Lord of Life, very presence to us We taste forgiveness. tied into all who have eternity. I am in awe



There is a special set of "eyeglasses" that may be put on. These glasses may be called, "gratitude," or "seeing-God," or "looking for blessings." It is a way of exploring the world, looking out for what God is doing, being able to give thanks in all circumstances (1 Thessalonians 5:18). It is, what I believe, a way to live in healthy relationship with the God who loves me, who loves us. May it be so for you!

The Holy Spirit works through am in awe of God's goodness. each worship service, crucified and risen, gives His in the bit of bread and wine. We eat in community. We are died, and all who will live in of God's goodness!

*"O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good, and God's mercy endures forever!"*



# IT'S A MATTER OF WORSHIP

## Stewardship At the Center of Who We Are

It's been said that good stewardship is good worship. At its heart, stewardship is our joyful response to our extravagantly generous God. This year, Zoar will celebrate God's extravagance with a focus in worship called **Transformed by Grace, Faith, and Love**. Beginning this worship emphasis on October 1 and continuing on October 8 and 15, worshipers will hear the amazing stories from three Zoar members how God revealed himself to them in times of difficulty. In addition to moving personal stories, each Sunday will focus on a different gift God gives to every believer. These are the gifts of grace, faith, and love. In bestowing on you these gifts, God appoints you as a steward, someone in charge of managing resources.



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

### Transformed by Grace

In week one, our focus is on grace, which is God's undeserved kindness and goodness. God's grace comes to us freely in Jesus' love for us. It is not something to which we have a right. Grace moves us and prompts us to accept God's call to be stewards. Stewardship is our response to God's grace in Jesus Christ. From grateful and thankful hearts we use our time, talents, and money in ways that make God smile.

### Transformed by Faith

In week two, we learn that grace comes to us through faith. Faith is the feeling of utter dependence on God. Through faith, God changes us and makes us part of his new creation. In faith, our lives take on new meaning. In faith, our lives go new directions. Faith gives shape to our works (James 2:18) and leads to concrete action. From our total dependence on God, we manage our time, talents, and money.

### Transformed by Love

In week three, our focus is love. Love seeks the welfare of others. God's love in Christ will move us to do things that might seem daring. It is because of love that we, as God's children, go out on a limb to do Jesus' work. God's love prompts us to give freely of our time, talents, and treasures to help others and extend his kingdom.



from  
**Omaldo**

Director of Music Ministries,  
Organist  
[operez@zoarlutheran.com](mailto:operez@zoarlutheran.com)

In July I had the pleasure of attending the national Lutheran church musician's gathering in Minneapolis. This conference gave me time to discern where the Spirit may be leading the music ministries at Zoar. More to the point, this time has called me to envision more ways for us to grow deeper into what has been called the *viva vox evangelii*, or the Living Voice of the Gospel. As we restart our music ministries in September, I would like us to consider stepping up our involvement in Zoar's musical life. I quote the words of theologian John Wesley for our collective pondering, "Sing lustily and with a good courage... Above all sing spiritually. Have an eye to God in every word you sing." May we find it so. Amen!





*We continue to pray for the Youth Minister Search Committee and their work in calling our next Youth Minister.*

**Youth Ministry  
Transition Team  
Contacts:**

**Birth-4th grade Ministries and  
Events:**

Kristen Scasny  
419 308 9203

**5th Grade-12th Grade Ministries  
and Events:**

Tom Haar

**Please use the joint email  
account:**  
zoarlutheranyouth@gmail.com

**Stay connected on Facebook:**  
Zoar Lutheran Church Youth

And on the Zoar Kids and Zoar  
Youth pages of our website!

## RALLY DAY ARRIVES AT ZOAR

All the Colors of the Rainbow In Sight

**September 10**



Rally Day is the first official day of Sunday school in the Zoar church year. And what a day this is going to be.

Donut Wall  
Heroes Inflatables slide, obstacle course, dodge  
ball,  
Face painting  
Henna tattoos



Sunday school registration



Decorated Cars — Inflatables — Lots of Candy



# ZOAR YOUTH LEAD THE WAY

## A Message from the new Youth Council

We are beyond excited to share with you what has been happening lately with the youth! Although it may seem that there's nothing to do now that Maddie's left us, the truth is actually the opposite. So many special activities are in the works for the next few months! Back when we were in the peaks of Colorado, hiking along the waterfalls and singing camp songs through the mountains, the high schoolers got together to discuss what exactly should happen now that our youth director is nonexistent. An idea was proposed -- what if we, the youth, decided what we, the youth, would do? What if we could have a chance to organize the way that our youth ministry



### What if the Youth were the leaders?

lives and breathes? And voila -- there you have it. The new Youth Council was born! So, we came back to the plains of Ohio and went to work. The next chapter of Zoar was about to be opened before our very eyes. On July 30th (the day we said our goodbyes), five high school youth met just before Youth Group to figure out how to setup something that was once a simple dream. The following Sunday night, we plowed through the very first meeting of Zoar's Youth Council. Ever since, we've updated the Youth board in the Welcome Area, became an affirmed group by the Church Council, and have now begun the journey of planning events for youth of all ages for the rest of the year! Do you have any questions about this new group of leaders? Want to join us for a meeting? Well, everyone is welcome! Check the Youth board for meeting information.



**Zoar Youth Meetings**  
**Every Sunday**  
**4:00-6:00**  
**9th -12th Grades**

**Each 3rd Sunday of the month**

## Upcoming Events



The 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering will take place in Houston, Texas June 27-July 1 2018.

Registration will open in early September. Interested in signing up or more information? Email [zoarlutheranyouth@gmail.com](mailto:zoarlutheranyouth@gmail.com)



Registration will be open to incoming 7th-12th grades.

**Cedar Point PointFest**  
**Saturday September 16th**  
**Sign up now!**

**Cost: \$50**

Covers amusement park admission and Christian concert ticket. Carpool transportation provided. Adult leaders and drivers needed. Contact Intern Kevin for details.



from

## Pastor Mike

Community Pastor  
[pastormike@zoarlutheran.com](mailto:pastormike@zoarlutheran.com)

You may notice that we are eating a lot together at Zoar this month. Between the Germanfest and the Transformed by Grace, Faith, and Love Dinners, we are gathering around the table en masse. That's the way it should be. At least, Jesus saw it that way. In between healings, miracles, and teachings, Jesus is constantly going from food event to food event. Whether a dinner party or feeding the masses, much of what Jesus did as eat with people. And in eating with people, he blessed them. I look forward to seeing you at one of Zoar's meals and seeing you blessed.



# WE ARE RE

If there is one thing God knows how to do it is create a great spread. Food fills the pages of the Bible from beginning to end, from Genesis to Revelation. Sharing a meal is one of the building blocks of the earliest Christians. They knew that feeling full feels good, especially as brothers and sisters in Christ. Mark your calendar now for a great spread. 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. In addition to the fantastic food, and great company, you will experience the wonderful inspiration of Zoar's new videos.

Seating is limited.

To reserve your place at the table, please call the church office at  
419-874-4346

These three short inspiring Zoar videos tell more of the story of Zoar and what Jesus is accomplishing through us. For several months, Zoar has been working with a professional film maker to produce these short videos capturing the exciting spirit at Zoar. These short videos will be unveiled publicly at these dinners. Along with viewing these videos, the dinners are

designed to hear your thoughts, how Zoar can support you, and share with you some of the ways you can support our work together through our October stewardship celebration: Transformed by Grace, Faith, and Love.





# READY FOR YOU



## THE MENUS ARE SET

Exquisite Food at the French Quarter

Sunday, Sept 17 *and* Wednesday, Sept. 27  
5:00-7:00 pm 6:00-8:00 pm



Baked Stuffed Chicken Breast  
or Home-style Pot Roast  
Whipped Potatoes  
Key West Vegetable Blend  
Tossed Garden Salad w/ dressing  
Ice Cream  
Hot/ice Tea, Lemonade, Coffee, Water, Wine



Saturday, Sept 30  
11:00am-1:00 pm

Grazing Menu Items  
Chicken Wings  
Beef Meatballs  
Chicken Quesadilla  
Loaded Potato Skins

Veggie Tray  
Fruit Tray  
Cheese Tray

Water, Alcohol at cash bar





# THE GATHERING CLASS

Not Your Usual Sunday School Class



The Gathering class meets each Sunday during the Sunday School year. While this group is perfect for parents with kids in Sunday School, all adults will find the class a welcome experience. Each week features a short video, ice-breaker questions, and a focus on a verse from the Gospel lesson for that Sunday.

## MAKING ZOAR HOME

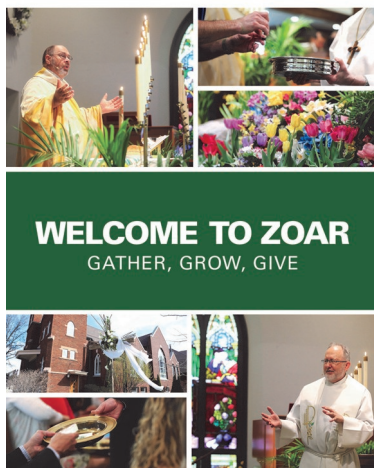
New Member Classes On the Horizon

October 1, 8,

15, & 22

Sundays at 7:00 pm

Childcare provided



## BENDING THE CURVE UP

Zoar Shows Growth



In a day and an age when it is common to hear reports of declining church attendance, declining membership, and aging church populations across the nation and in all denominations, Zoar stands out for moving in the opposite direction. A mid-year review of Zoar's worship attendance points to a very live and lively church.

From January through June of this year, weekly worship attendance was up 7.2% over the same period of January – June last year. In 2016, attendance at the weekend worship services averaged 411 people. In 2017, from January — June, average attendance at worship was 441 at weekend worship. Being a part of a growing dynamic church is a rare experience in America.

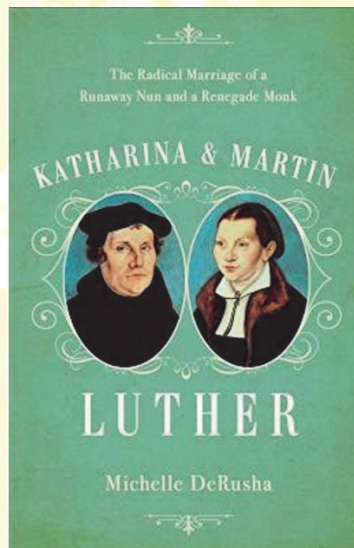
God is doing amaZing work at Zoar!





## BOOK CLUB

Meets First Friday



The Zoar Book Club has scheduled an excursion to the Toledo Museum of Art, Friday, September 8th, 7:00 p.m. to hear Professor Alan Shapiro speak on the topic "THE BERLIN PAINTER AND THE ORIGINS OF PORTRAITURE IN GREECE." Attendees may join for dinner in the Museum Cafe at 5:30 p.m. For members of the TMA, there is no cost. For non-members the cost is \$5.

On Friday, October 6th, the book club meets at Zoar Lutheran Church. People are asked to bring a sack lunch at noon. Bill Kahlenberg will review "Katharina & Martin Luther: The Radical Marriage of a Runaway Nun And A Renegade Monk" by Michelle DeRusha.

## ADULT GOODIES ON THE WAY

Rally Day Not Just for Kids Anymore

September 10 makes the official day of the Sunday school year and the Fall calendar for children, youth, and adults. Page 4 of this newsletter points out the special features planned for the children. But what about the adults? Rally Day is just as much for adults as it is for the kids. To celebrate and kick off the Fall activities, adults are invited to load up on goodies to show their Zoar spirit. Wherever you normally enter the building, navigate your way to the welcome center. There you will find coffee cups, t-shirts, and bumper stickers to take. Use these in to help spread to word of the amazing! things

# Be AmaZed!

## CELEBRATING THE 500TH


Joint Lutheran-Catholic Service


— From Conflict to Communion: Together in Hope —


### A Joint Commemoration OF THE REFORMATION

Led by **Bishop Daniel E. Thomas**,  
Catholic Diocese of Toledo  
& **Bishop Daniel Beaudoin**,  
Northwestern Ohio Synod  
of the Evangelical  
Lutheran Church in America

**SUNDAY**  
SEPTEMBER 10, 2017  
**JOINT PRAYER SERVICE 3 P.M.**  
Reception to Follow  
Saint Michael the Archangel Roman Catholic Church  
750 Bright Road Findlay



 Northwestern Ohio Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

 Diocese of Toledo

# WORSHIP SERVANTS FOR SEPTEMBER

## USHERS

**7:15**  
September Tom Schult  
Judy Schult

**8:30**  
Dave Stuckey  
Ralph Debbe  
Ted Weaver  
Dick Cox

**11:00**  
Jim Ninke  
Matt Obrock  
Bob Obrock  
Judy Cooper

## SATURDAY USHERS

2 Ken & Carolyn Vajen  
9 Dave & Sue Gogel  
16 Terry & Rhonda Jones  
23 Dave & Lisa Richard  
30 Cheryl Williams, Jim Dollar

## LECTORS

**7:15**  
Sept. 3 Dorothy Beyer  
10 Judy Schult  
17 Ray Ruswinkle  
24 Janis Stein

**8:30**  
Leigh Ann Meinecke  
Mary Richter  
Roger Geffe  
Karen Lundholm

**11:00**  
Hazel Deuble  
Dante Flores  
Derek Meyer  
Tom Berkebile

## ACOLYTES

**8:30**  
Sept. 3 Calista Grantham  
10 Garrett Knowlton  
17 Leah Schroeder  
24 Sydney Doughten

**11:00**  
Chase Saneholtz  
Jenna & Sydney Rettig  
Andrew & Tyler Swoap  
Aubrey Arndt

## ASSISTING

### MINISTERS

**7:15**  
Sept. 3  
10 Dorothy Beyer  
17  
24 Ray Ruswinkle

**8:30**  
Carole Bohn  
Roger Geffe  
Scott Geffe

**11:00**  
Don Lieder  
Roger Shoffner

## GREETERS

**8:30**  
Sept. 3 M/M Jones, Marcia Amstutz  
10 M/M Johnson, Marilyn Brossia  
17 M/M Heslup, Doris Henline  
24 Lida Ryan, Sharla Cook

**11:00**  
Connie Teare, Richard Hazle  
M/M Lieder, J. Cooper, Gl. Odegaard  
Jo Moulton, Keith Robeson  
Jim & Diane Ninke, High School Youth

## SATURDAY GREETERS

2 Bill & Janet smith  
9 Dave & Lisa Richard  
16 Sondra Alexander  
23 Karen Schlatter  
30 Mark & Jeri Lathrop

## SOUND

**8:30**  
Sept. 3 Dave Sudman  
10 Chuck Ackerman  
17 Carl Habekost  
24 Russ Baker

**11:00**  
Greg Tye  
Vince Krolak  
Spencer Tye  
Tom Trimble

## SATURDAY SOUND CREW

2 Doug Williams  
9 Doug Williams  
16 Doug Williams  
23 Martha Amstutz  
30 Ryan Williams

## COUNTERS

Sept. 3 David Sudman, Dan Bartels  
10 Carole Welling, Joyce Cox  
17 Russ & Nancy Heckman, Brian & Jane Tomko  
24 Jim Kwasniak, Tom Dayton

## ALTAR GUILD

**7:15**  
Sept. 3 N. Johnson, L. Hagedorn  
10 Marcia Amstutz  
17 Jane Schroeder  
24 Nadine Johnson

**8:30**  
K. Lundholm, T. Young  
Vicki Karnes  
Lisa Hoverson  
Andrea Rex

**11:00**  
Mary Ann Abke, Donna Besly  
Carolyn St. Meyers  
Nancy Jack  
Pat McNutt

# SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

9/4 Phyllis Spoerl  
9/8 Harold Wolf





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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:  
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.

*Zoar is an inclusive  
barrier-free community*



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**ZOAR**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

