

ZOARNEWS



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ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

JANUARY 28TH

12:30 PM

Zoar's Annual Meeting starts promptly at 12:30pm, Sunday, January 28 in the sanctuary. During the meeting, we will lift up and celebrate the many ways Jesus has moved among us in the past year. We will also approve a budget, elect council members, officers, and committee members.



www.zoarlutheran.com

HOPE IN JESUS



The new year is upon us! It is time to put Christmas decorations away (after the 6th!), time to prepare for the rest of winter (alleluia!), time to take in a breath and wait for all that God will bring in this new year.

And, it's time for those pesky resolutions: to pray more, to lose weight, to be kinder, to reach out more, to be more faithful in our... We all start out with great intentions, and then reality hits.

How new is this new year, really? We still encounter injustices and divisions, we still experience brokenness in our families and among neighbors, we still seem to be on the brink of war, addictions inflict our people, we still are encumbered with disease and pain, and death still stalks us. Has the world changed, with just a change from 2017 to 2018?

Sisters and brothers, this is where we have good news for this world. This good news starts with the love of God, a love so full and complete that in spite of all of the pain we inflict on ourselves and on each other, God holds on to us. This love, as you know, reached its "crux" when Jesus (God poured into flesh) took upon Himself our pain and brokenness, taking it with Him into the tomb. Easter morning dawned and Jesus rose with the trumpet sound. Nothing is stronger than this love of God. Nothing can conquer this love of God. In Jesus, love wins!

So, the word I hold onto in 2018 is HOPE. I have hope that in Jesus relationships will be restored. I have hope that in Jesus there will be a renewed sense of God's love and joy here at Zoar. I have hope that in Jesus the leaders of our countries will hear the voice of God, will care for God's people, and will work for peace. I have hope in Jesus that the day will come when He will return, and death will be destroyed. I have hope in Jesus that we will be the ones to carry God's love into our neighborhoods and communities. I have hope in Jesus that our families will find health.

Pipe dreams? Naivety? No, for in God, all things are possible. May you, this year, be also filled with such hope in Jesus!

Pastor Tim
Senior Pastor
pastortim@zoarlutheran.com



FUEL FOR A FULFILLING CHRISTIAN LIFE

CHRIST CARE GROUPS MAKE THE CONNECTION

In Acts the Bible tells us we need to be in relationships for our personal and spiritual growth. Paul and the early Christians became the force they were because they taught and received teaching “from house to house.” You, too, can become a force in your world by continuing your walk with Christ in each others homes (Acts 5:42; 20:20)! Why did Paul and the early Christians do this? Because, meeting in small groups provides spiritual depth, a maturing faith, and a sense of belonging you just can’t get with worship alone.

Even though, Zoar has a variety of small groups that meet regularly, there are not enough groups for everyone who worships at Zoar. Beginning in January, I will begin developing what we are calling Christ Care groups to include more and more people in the joy and blessing that comes in these groups.

Christ Care groups will meet once a month in someone’s home for socializing, snacks/beverages, brief Bible study, and prayer. Usually lasting around 1 ½ hours, people of various backgrounds and stages of life meet build strong feelings of belonging and support.

Remember, 1) God’s plan for you is to be in a quality relationship with Him and others within a community; 2) You need and deserve a place to be supported and to offer others your support; 3) You need and deserve to laugh and to help others laugh. As Zoar Lutherans, our primary focus is to develop into thriving followers of Jesus. It is to “gather, grow, and give.” Christ Care is one of the ways we grow at Zoar. To find out more about Christ Care groups, stop me at church sometime, email me at pastormike@zoarlutheran.com, or call me at 419-345-2836. I look forward to hearing from you.



Pastor Mike
Community Pastor
pastormike@zoarlutheran.com



PCU BLOOD DRIVE

JANUARY 12TH
12 PM - 6 PM

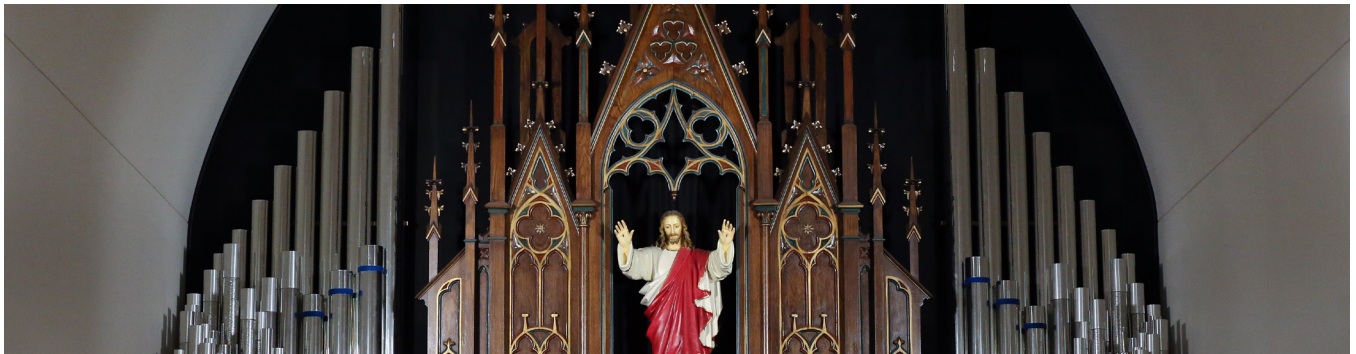
Perrysburg Christians United (PCU) will sponsor a blood drive at Zoar on Friday, Jan. 12, from noon to 5:45 p.m. for appointments and until 6:00 p.m. for walk-ins. The Red Cross will be making phone calls to recruit donors. Those desiring to donate may also register online at redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-733-2767

COLLEGE PREP NIGHT

JANUARY 28TH
4 PM - 6 PM

High School Youth and Family, Mrs. Lindsay Czech, Director of College Advising at Perrysburg High School will be with us to share information on getting ready for college and to answer any questions in a round table discussion. HS Youth bring your questions and parents. Parents bring your HS Youth and questions.

AGO CONCERT



FEBRUARY 4TH
TIMETBA

Zoar Lutheran Church and the Toledo Chapter of the American Guild of Organists are delighted to announce the first concert in Zoar's 2018 concert series. Featuring the mighty Rogers-Ruffatti organ, AGO members from the Northwest Ohio area will come to Zoar to regale us with an afternoon of music that will be electric, eclectic, and fun. Zoar's very own Omaldo Perez will participate in this intriguing joint venture. So plan to join us and discover the sounds of what promises to be a veritable musical feast!

YOUTH STORIES

A new year is upon us at last. We're still working hard to find a new Youth Director as Intern Kevin continues to go above and beyond for the youth in place of Maddie, his own position soon to disappear this spring. This is nothing new for us... we've known about this for some time now. That doesn't change how hard it will be in the end.

November may be the time to celebrate Thanksgiving, but as one chapter is over and the next is right around the corner, I think it's a wonderful time to reflect and be thankful. Each week, I walk into Zoar and am greeted by a room of cheerful people of all ages, colors, backgrounds, beliefs, and struggles. They welcome me in and offer a gesture or two of kindness. I am thankful for these people.

At 9:45 it's time for Sunday School, so us kids run up the stairs and make our way to the top floor, only to find a beautiful abundance of snacks, coffee, games, TVs, furniture, air conditioning, some of the best teachers... in other words, lots of things we really don't need. Things we take for granted. We are beyond blessed, but we too often forget. I am thankful for all of this, and the same goes for Youth Group and church and gatherings and the Foundation.

So now I am asking you, dear reader: what are you thankful for? What things do you overlook in your own life, or in your experience with Zoar? We may be losing Kevin and so many other things in the near future, but what blessings will follow? What things can we remember and carry with us as the memories Kevin, Maddie, and others before them gave us?



Michael Georgeson
Youth Council President



YOUTH GROUP

High School Youth Group is held every Sunday from 4 - 5 PM. Every 3rd Sunday Jr. High students are welcome to join for Youth Group. Join us for fun and fellowship and find out how you can be more involved with Zoar Youth!

SHALL SEE AND BE RADIANT

How appropriate that our first liturgy in 2018 is the great Feast of Epiphany! A date when we celebrate the “manifestation” of the enfleshed God and take fresh stock of what it means to be followers of the light. An occasion when we read in the scriptures how Seers of old followed a star to find divinity incarnate. A time when Isaiah promises that we too, “shall see and be radiant.”

Every slice of the church year has its accompanying songs, and this season of light will be no different. We will echo the message of Epiphany as we proclaim God’s grace in word and music. During January our songs will include, O Morning Star, How Fair, How Bright (ELW 308); Christ Be Our Light (ELW 715); This Little Light of Mine (ELW 677); Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness (ELW 843) and many others.

Therefore, as we honor the church’s Zeitgeist, and as a cross between a public exercise and new year’s meditation, I would like to invite you to join me in thinking about our Christian witness for the year to come. I will pose some questions, and offer answers in the form of hymns: How are we showing the world that we are being guided by the light? (ELW 311) How will this light inspire our vision and illumine our paths? (ELW 641) How will the promise of Isaiah be manifested in our lives for the sake of all the children of God? (ELW 314).



ZOAR CONCERT SERIES

UPCOMING CONCERTS

Sunday, February 4 at TBA We will be hosting an organ recital presented by the members of the Toledo chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

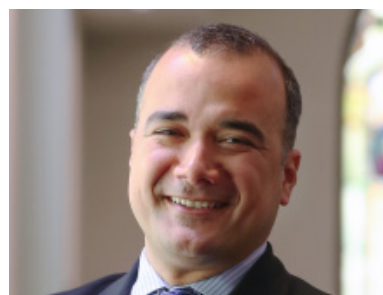
Friday, February 23, at 7:00 pm The Children Choir of Northwest Ohio will be returning to Zoar and will be joined by Zoar’s Cantorei Jr. Choir.

Sunday, March 4 at 4:00 pm Organist Chad Fothergill will explore themes related to the Gospels of Mark and John.

Friday, March 23 at 7:00 pm We will present a screening of the original 1925 movie Ben Hur accompanied live on our very own Rodgers-Ruffatti organ by acclaimed organist Andrew Rogers.

Friday, April 27 at 7:00 pm We will close our season with the G. F. Handel Oratorio La Resurrezione (The Resurrection).

Omaldo
Director of Music/Organist
operez@zoarlutheran.com



GENESIS BIBLE STUDY



BEGINS JANUARY 7TH

9:45 AM

We humans are deeply interested in our origins. Identifying ancestors and one's geographic and cultural roots is not new. In fact, the title of the Bible's first book, Genesis, is borrowed from the Greek word for "origin." Genesis is concerned with the origin of the earth's creation, of humankind, of civilization, and of one family chosen by God to be the medium of world blessing.

This 8-week study will explore how the stories portray God's character and intentions and who we are in relationship to God and the rest of creation. The stories of the difficulties, temptations, and doubts of the characters in Genesis also provides a space for religious people to wrestle with our own spiritual struggles and doubts. We will also identify how Genesis was shaped by and addressed its ancient culture as well as how present-day culture influences our reading.

Led by Donna Laird (Ph.D. in Old Testament studies), we will follow the Genesis study guide from Augsburg-Fortress Press's Books of Faith Series. Class will meet in the conference room.

GET YOUR GEEK ON

According to a Pew Research Center report in 2014, a majority of Americans (68%) say that science does not conflict with their own personal religious beliefs. This report points out that there are millions of Christians who celebrate the advances in science and technology. In the Lutheran tradition, science and faith have never been seen to be in conflict. Instead, they complement each other. In 2018, Zoar will launch a new ministry that explores the relationship between faith, science, and technology. You are invited to this great conversation.



If you are interested, please contact Pastor Mike in person or at pastormike@zoarlutheran.com.

GATHERGROWGIVE



Thanksgiving Day Meal

Thank you to the wonderful volunteers who helped serve a wonderful meal on Thanksgiving day to over 80 guests. Volunteers helped to set up, serve, and clean up. Thank you to Bob Evans for providing the food.

STRUGGLE IS REAL

RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP



BEGINS JANUARY 9TH
6:30 PM

Life is full of struggles. We all need support and the love of God to get us through. Whether you are struggling with addiction, alcoholism, compulsion, codependency, or any issue blocking you from contentment and fulfillment, all are welcome to our new Recovery Group that meets ever 2nd Tuesday from 6:30 - 7:30 PM. Join us as we share our triumphs and tribulations in an anonymous and welcoming atmosphere.

Please contact Hannd Smith (260) 450-1025 or hsmith5090@gmail.com with any questions.

JANUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Church Office Closed	2 Pickleball	3 Bible Study	4 Men's Breakfast	5 Zoar Book Club	6 WORSHIP
7 Youth Council Meeting Genesis Bible Study	8 Popcorn Gang	9 Recovery Support Group	10 Bible Study Rachel Circle	11 Men's Bridge	12 PCU Blood Drive	13 Yarns of Love
14 The Gathering	15 Flutes	16 Quilters	17 Recorders	18 Naomi Circle	19	20 Prayer Partners
21 Jr. & Sr. High Youth	22 Men's Basketball	23 Altar Guild	24 Confirmation	25 Agape Bells	26 Kitchen of Hope	27 WORSHIP
28 Annual Congregational Meeting	29 Flute Choir Practice	30 Pickleball	31 Recorders			

FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF EVENTS VISIT
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85+ JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1/6	Betty Fallon	1/27	Paul Meyerholtz
1/7	Les Meier	1/28	Marcelene Davis
1/14	Ramona Abke	1/29	Miriam Fansler
1/25	Mearl Finch		
1/27	Donald Creps		

WORSHIP SERVANTS FOR JANUARY

ACOLYTES	8:30		11:00
1/14	Ben Robeson, Chase Saneholtz		Aubrey Arndt, Averil Cline
1/21	Jakob Rickman, Jacob Benington		Brian Baroncini, Joshua Clark
1/28	Carley Milligan, Cassidy Milligan		Andy Engelhart, Joey Jacoby
ASSISTING MINISTERS	7:15	8:30	11
1/7		Roger Geffe	
1/14	Dorothy Beyer	Carole Bohn	Don Lieder
1/21			Roger Shoffner
1/28	Ray Ruswinkle	Scott Geffe	
USHERS	6 PM		
1/6	Cheryl Williams		
1/13	Jim Laine, Charlie Rinker		
1/20	Judy Cooper, Gloria Odegaard		
1/27	Dave & Lisa Richard		
LECTORS	7:15	8:30	11
1/7	Ray Ruswinkle	Roger Geffe	Roger Shoffner
1/14	Janis Stein	Karen Lundholm	Rachel Abke
1/21	Dorothy Beyer	Marie Obrock	Elizabeth Emmert
1/28	Judy Schult	Alice Coy	Ann Lieder
GREETERS	6 PM		
1/6	Cheryl Williams & Ellen Williams		
1/13	Ken & Car		
1/20	Judy Cooper, Gloria Odegaard		
1/27	Dave & Lisa Richard		
COUNTERS			
1/7	Russ & Nancy Heckman, Brian & Jane Tomko		
1/14	Jim Kwasniak, Tom Dayton		
1/21	Chuck & Nancy Elvers, Heidi & Derek Meyer		
1/28	Glenn & Mary Ann Abke, Alice Coy		



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

CURRENT RESIDENT OR

Worship	
Saturday	6:00 PM
Sunday	7:15 AM
	8:30 AM
	11:00 AM
Sunday School	9:45 AM September - May

Just Minutes from Everything & Everyone
314 E Indiana Ave, Perrysburg, OH

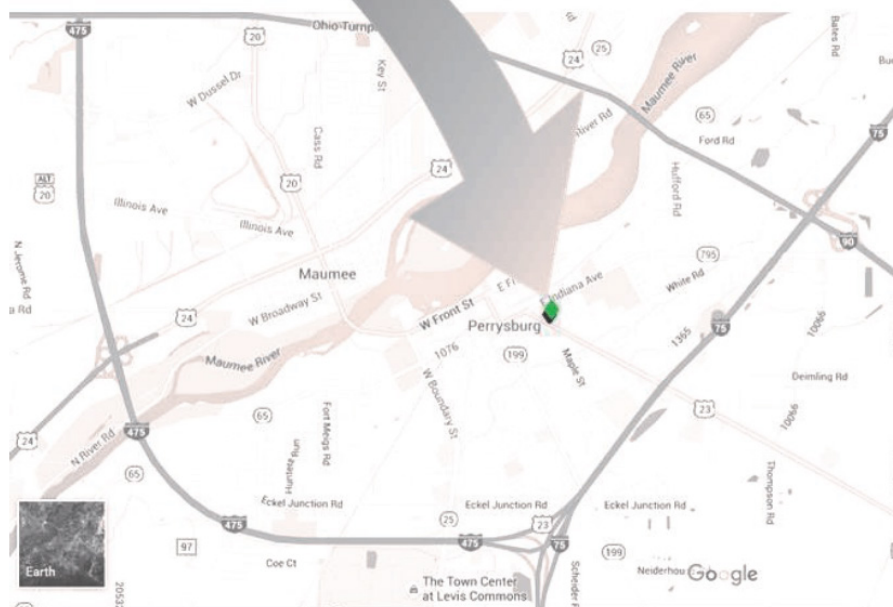


From I-75 South:

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 ahead on the right side of the road.



314 East Indiana Avenue (419) 874-4346
Perrysburg, Ohio 43551 www.zoarlutheran.com

