

Amazing!News

JUNE // 2022



A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FROM ZOAR LUTHERAN CHURCH | WWW.ZOARLUTHERAN.COM

Renew, Refresh and Recharge

We have just had a string of beautiful days with the temperatures in the mid 70's, it can only mean one thing: the beginning of summer! Have you noticed people seem a little more excited for summer's arrival this year? Perhaps it's a reaction to the long, cold spring all that late snow would make almost anyone anxious for some warm breezes.

With summer comes, for a number of you, cottages, vacations, and trips. Now if you think that this is the place that I'm going to chastise you for being gone, you are incorrect! In fact, you are in good company. Matthew 14:13, "(Jesus) withdrew by boat [privately to a solitary place]." Did you catch that? Jesus is on a lake, in a boat, getting away from it all. And this is by no means the only time Jesus takes a break. He often goes away to recharge or to get some perspective. Sometimes it's by himself, and sometimes he goes with some of his friends.

And Jesus did two things with these retreats. First, he remembered who he was. Jesus didn't go with a, "What happens in Vegas stays in Vegas" attitude. In his vacations, he was true to the person he was called to be. Second, he came back. Jesus starts talking about the direction of his career while on a break with his disciples up north in Caesarea

Renew, Refresh and Recharge Continued on page 2...



from
Pastor Paul

Senior Pastor

pastorpaul@zoarlutheran.com

*Grace and peace from
God our Father and from our
Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
Amen.*



Philippi. (Matthew 16:21) It certainly must have been tempting to simply stay on break, but Jesus knew where he belonged even though that would eventually mean that he would suffer and die on a cross for us, and on the third day rise. He needed to be back where he was making a difference.

**Though we may take a break from
our community, our responsibilities,
God doesn't take a break from us.**

So, here is my charge to you this summer. Go, renew, refresh, and recharge. If you can manage to do that by some water, so much the better from my perspective. And while you are gone, remember that you are a child of God. Though we may take a break from our community, our responsibilities, God doesn't take a break from us. And after your time away, come back to church. Come back to where you are making a difference in people's lives and changing the world one person at a time for Jesus' sake. In this newsletter, you'll find news of an upcoming events: Vacation Bible School, a youth mission trip, and so much more. There are many things happening in our Be AmaZed life together at Zoar, and we need you to be a part of them.

We rejoice with you in your time away; we miss you when you are gone; and we look forward to your homecoming.

Peace,

Pastor Paul

WELCOME Pastor Rich



A letter from Pastor Rich Rentner, new Visitation Pastor at Zoar.

I'm currently contacting members who are unable to get to church, to meet them and make sure they know they remain important to Zoar's ministry.

Pastor Paul Reichert and the Zoar staff have graciously welcomed me, and I hope you will also!

If you would like a pastoral visit, please contact the church office at 419-874-4346 and either Pastor Paul or I will be happy to schedule a meeting.

From time to time I may also be leading worship at one of our residential communities or at Zoar, and I may also be making some hospital visits as appropriate.

When I am not leading worship at another church, I hope to attend Zoar and get to know our members. Feel free to contact me at 517-662-9451 or richardrentner49@gmail.com.

GUEST PREACHER



Bishop Daniel Beaudoin



Zoar welcomes Northwestern Ohio Synod of the ELCA Bishop Daniel Beaudoin as he leads worship services June 18 - 19. All are welcome!

Join us!

Saturday, June 18 • 6 PM

Sunday, June 19 • 8:30 AM | 11 AM

Feed Our Families

ZOAR COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Zoar's Feed Our Families program provides groceries to families living in Northern Wood County with school-aged children who qualify for free or reduced school lunches. The program runs during the summer to help offset a family's need for food while children are home from school. This year, Feed Our Families, begins Thursday, June 9, and continues every other Thursday through August 4.



The way the program works is that Zoar volunteers stock the Family Life Center (FLC) like a grocery store for people to shop with shopping carts to gather groceries for their family. This setup allows for a more comfortable experience empowering those who use it and to help break the stigmas of food bank use. "Most years, we serve between 30-45 families," said Tracy Rickman, chair of the Feed Our Families program. "However, I believe we will see a greater need this year because of the higher cost of food and toiletries in general."



COVID completely shifted operations for food assistance and now supply chain shortages are threatening food banks. "We're working through some issues with food shortages and delivery," said Tracy. "While we won't know the extent of our needs until our transport

issue is resolved, one thing we always need is deodorant and toiletries. Donated items can be left in the cabinets marked *Feed Our Families* near the Gathering Space area."

We are also in need of youth and adult volunteers who can lift and carry 10+ pounds," continued Tracy. "But we won't ever turn anyone away who will help."

To learn more, make a donation, volunteer or register to receive food, email Tracy Rickman at tracyrickman@hotmail.com

ZOAR SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

We are a church that believes God is calling us to serve together. Not sure where to start? Here are some opportunities available for you to consider.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Both adult and youth volunteers are needed to help with VBS the week of June 26-30. Sign-up at <https://vbspro.events/p/events/zoarvbs2022foodtruckparty>.

SOCIAL HOUR

Contact Margie and Tom Iserman at iserprsn@bex.net if you would like to contribute pastries or volunteer to help.

ACOLYTES

All youth in 5th-12th grades are asked to volunteer through the month of July to help us return to this practice during worship. ServiceTrip participants can earn covenant points for acolyting and 7th and 8th grade students are especially encouraged to help. Email Miss Amanda at ahoyles@zoarlutheran.com

LECTORS AND USHERS

Lectors are needed to do readings during worship service. Zoar is asking for Ushers to help serve during worship with offering and communion. Email Brekke, Church Secretary, at bell@zoarlutheran.com.

If you need additional information, please contact the church office at 419-874-4346.

Rise to be of service to Zoar – we need you!



JUNE 2022 YOUTH UPDATE



from
Amanda
Director of Youth Ministries
ahoyles@zoarlutheran.com

Greetings Friends,

Happy Summer! We finally made it! This month we jump into some of the most fun youth and children's events of the year. We continue with our final preparations for next month's Service Trip, by joining other youth from across they Synod for a day together in the park and more.

The month rounds itself out with the biggest event of the year – get ready for Cokesbury Publishing's Food Truck Party VBS! I am so excited to dig into the gospel message and to be "On a Roll with God." I cannot wait to share in fellowship, service, learning and worship with you and the community this June!

Praise God!

Amanda

- June 5 Service Trip Meeting 3PM
Youth Group: Make Your Own Pizza Night 4-6PM
- June 12 NWOS Youth Day 2-6PM
- June 19 Happy Father's Day! Ice Cream Sundaes after 11AM worship
No Youth Group!
- June 24 & 25 VBS Decorating/Set-up, Time: TBA
- June 26-30 Food Truck Party VBS!

Upcoming Service Trip Preparations – We are so excited to be travelling to Columbia, South Carolina this summer to serve with Next Step Ministries July 24-30! As our trip approaches, participants are asked to attend trip preparation meetings to learn more about the Columbia community, what to expect, pack and more! Our preparation meetings will take place: **June 5, 3-4PM, June 12, 2-6PM for those attending Synod Youth Day and July 10, 3-4PM.**

Northwest Ohio Synod Youth Day – Join Zoar in attending Northwest Ohio Synod Youth Day June 12, 2-6PM! All attending the 2022 Service Trip are strongly encouraged to attend! All current 7th-12th Grade students are welcome! Come and join youth and youth leaders from all over Northwest Ohio for fun, fellowship, food trucks and a commissioning of service trips by Bishop Daniel Beaudoin!

Youth Volunteers Needed for Feed our Families – A few youth are needed throughout the summer to help load groceries into vehicles for Feed our Families. If this is a way in which you might be able to serve, please contact Amanda at ahoyles@zoarlutheran.com for more information.

Father's Day Sundaes – Join us immediately following 11AM worship on June 19 in the FLC for Father's Day Sundaes! Enjoy an ice cream treat and some fellowship before you leave church in order to celebrate all of Zoar's Dads! All are welcome!

2022 Vacation Bible School: Food Truck Party! – We cannot wait for Zoar's 2022 Vacation Bible School June 26-30. This year we will be using the Cokesbury Publishing Theme "Food Truck Party." Did you miss the registration deadline? Some spots might still be available, please contact Amanda at ahoyles@zoarlutheran.com for more information. This year's VBS will take place during the following times:

June 26 12PM-2PM: VBS Kick-OFF (For participants and their families - join us for lunch and Day 1 activities)

June 27-30 9AM-12PM: Participants Only

WORSHIP IN JUNE

JUNE 5: PENTECOST SUNDAY: CHANGE AND GOD'S PEACE

Some ancient philosophers argued about the true nature of things. One Heraclitus of Ephesus proposed that the world is made of fire. Perhaps not in the literal sense, but as a metaphor for life's changing and transitory nature. As we celebrate Pentecost and God in the third person of the Trinity, we remember the Holy Spirit showed up as fire—and fire as God's manifestation in the world. Regarding change, Jesus promised: "But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. 27Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid." On Pentecost, we remain open for (and recommit ourselves to) God's marvelous work. How are we living into the gift of God's presence? How is this gift opening possibilities in our lives?

JUNE 12: HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY: RELATIONSHIP MODEL

This festival, the only one in our calendar dedicated to a doctrine, invites us to consider how God (one divine unity of three distinct presences) is constituted or characterized by relationship. Church Fathers imagined the divine interdependence as a "dance around" (from the Greek "perichoresis"): of the Father with the Son, the Son with the Spirit. This interdependence is a model of community for Christians. Following this model, the Christian community bases its decisions and actions on God's graceful co-inherence or "indwelling." Therefore, in everything we do, let us be mindful of each other. "Holy, Holy, Holy, God Lord Almighty is a perfect hymn to praise God and explore our "loving coordination" as members of the body of Christ.

JUNE 19: LECTIONARY 12: LETTING EVERYONE KNOW

After a few weeks of John, our lectionary finally brings us back to Luke, and this Sunday, we get to hear one of the great healing stories of the New Testament, that of the Gerasene demoniac. Here, we encounter one of the most notable reversals of fortune for both human and non-human participants. Even when we know that in the world of ancient Israel, pigs were considered "unclean," it is difficult for us to hear this story and not relate to their fate. The pigs were minding their own business when a horde of demons suddenly took possession of them and led them to their doom. More dramatic still was the witness of the man who was enslaved by his condition for years. Jesus commissioned the Gerasene to be a witness to the liberation: "Return to your home and declare how much God has done for you." We, disciples of Jesus, should do well to follow this admonition. Let us keep stock of the many blessing in our daily lives.

JUNE 26: LECTIONARY 13: EXCUSES

In today's episode of the Gospel, we see a pattern. The pattern goes like this: when Jesus invites individuals to follow him, the answer invariably is: "Yes, but...X." The "X" is perceived by some as the priority that delays the response of the would-be disciple. Discipleship is not easy. Humans (then and now) are in the habit of presenting all sorts of excuses for why we can't start right away. But Jesus insists; he keeps calling and wants a straight answer now. He makes it clear that answering his call and living the life of discipleship requires no less than everything. No wonder there is resistance to the radical call of discipleship. Yet, we are also reminded that the Spirit will support our work and, in turn, give us the strength and all resources to answer the call.

Reprinted with permission from our online resource, Sundays and Seasons.



from
Omaldo
Cantor
opez@zoarlutheran.com

We begin the month with the Feast of Pentecost, the third most important date in the Christian calendar (after Easter and Christmas). We remember how the disciples were emboldened to go forth and given the means to move beyond their fear and apprehension to embrace the Great Commission. Just like two millennia ago, the gift of Pentecost reminds us to strive for the Kingdom of God. Like the "rosy fingers of dawn," we begin to admire God's glorious day, peeking ever-so-gently over the horizon.

So, we engage the world, confident that God has a purpose and that the whole world is in God's hands. To this end, and as an affirmation of this trust, on Pentecost Sunday, we will sing the inspiring words of Delores Duffner, sister in the order of Saint Benedict (or Benedictine nun) and writer and poet extraordinaire of the O Spirit All-Embracing (ACS 944):

*Come, passion's power holy,
your insight here impart,
and give your servants lowly
an understanding heart
to know your care more clearly
when faith and love are tried,
to seek you more sincerely
when false ideals have died:
for vision we implore you,
for wisdom's pure delight;
in prayer we come before you
to wait upon your light.*

Peace and (Spirit-led) Joy,
Omaldo



Z O A R C A L E N D A R O F E V E N T S H I G H L I G H T S

JUNE // 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 8AM Bible Study 3:30PM Abundant Life II 5PM Cantorei Jr. 7PM Chronicles Bible Study Zoom 8PM Uncorked Faith	2 10AM Chronicles Bible Study	3 9:30AM Blood Drive 12PM OFFICE CLOSES //// SYNOD ASSEMBLY @ BGSU ////	4 6PM Worship
5 DAY OF PENTECOST 8:30, 11AM Baptism + Worship 3PM Youth Service Trip Mtg	6 5:30PM Property Mtg 7PM Social Ministry Committee Mtg	7 8AM Quilters 3:14PM Prayer w/ Staff on FB Live 7PM LLL Mtg	8 8AM Bible Study 1PM Rachel Circle 7PM YAYA	9 Feed Our Families Begins	10 12PM OFFICE CLOSES	11 10AM Yarns of Love 6PM Worship
12 THE HOLY TRINITY 8:30, 11AM Worship 2PM NWO Youth Day	13	14 8AM Quilters 3:14PM Prayer w/ Staff on FB Live 6PM Budget Finance Committee Mtg 7PM Stewardship Mtg	15 8AM Bible Study 8AM Blood Drive	16	17 12PM OFFICE CLOSES	18 10AM Prayer Partners 6PM Worship
19 PENTECOST II 8:30, 11AM Worship w/ Bishop Beaudoin 12PM Father's Day Sundaes	20 7PM Worship Committee Mtg	21 8AM Quilters 3:14PM Prayer w/ Staff on FB Live 7PM Council Mtg	22 8AM Bible Study 1:30PM Abundant Life I	23 Feed Our Families	24 12PM OFFICE CLOSES	25 6PM Worship
26 PENTECOST III 8:30, 11AM Worship 12PM VBS Kick-off	27 9AM VBS 6PM Popcorn Gang 6:30PM Personnel Committee Mtg	28 9AM VBS 3:14PM Prayer w/ Staff on FB Live	29 8AM Bible Study 9AM VBS 1:30PM Abundant Life I	30 9AM VBS		

For a complete list of events, please check announcements in weekly Z-Blast email.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR MEMBERS 85+ IN JUNE!

June 4 Mary Lou Meier
 June 6 Shirley Cannon
 June 12 Jim Lessig
 June 26 Loujean Hazel
 June 29 Don Carter

ZOAR STAFF

Senior Pastor: Paul Reichert
 Cantor: Omaldo Perez
 Director of Youth Ministries: Amanda Hoyles

Administrative Manager: Jen Milligan
 Marketing Coordinator: Melissa Ellerbrock
 Church Secretary: Brekke Ell
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Would you like to place a birthday announcement, congratulatory message or advertisement in the Zoar monthly newsletter?

Email communications@zoarlutheran.com for pricing and availability.

DEADLINE IS THE 2ND OF THE PRECEDING MONTH.



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As the people of Zoar, social media is one of the easiest ways to build our community. Get connected with our latest news and updates by following Zoar on one (or all!) of these social platforms:



on Facebook **@ZoarLutheranChurchPerrysburg**



Zoar also has four private Facebook Groups to connect with people of common interests:
Zoar Fellowship, Zoar Youth, Zoar Families and Zoar Young Couples



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