

Amazing!News

SEPTEMBER // 2022



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

How will you Gather, Grow and Give?

For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.

~ Ephesians 1:15-17

Well, if you have been gone this summer, you have missed some serious excitement here at Zoar! In June, we celebrated a return to a more "normal" VBS with more than 80 children and adults participating in Food Truck Party! We also said goodbye to Jen as she took a position at Bowling Green State University. Then in July, we celebrated and said goodbye to Omaldo and Sonia as they head to Illinois, and we had 18 youth and adults participate in a mission trip (four years in the making) to Columbia, South Carolina. And we celebrated and said goodbye to

Gather, Grow and Give continued on page 2...



from
Pastor Paul

Senior Pastor

pastorpaul@zoarlutheran.com



Amanda as she returns to the high school classroom. In August, we dedicated our new piano, blessed our young people, teachers, and staff heading back to school in Zoar and community events, and got ready for fall programming that will soon be starting up.

Whew! And the amazing thing is that those are just some of the highlights! Along the way, we continued to worship, provide several meals to shelters, serve local families experiencing food insecurity, help house those in need, assist our covenant partner church, Redeemer Lutheran in Toledo, have five blood drives, host youth events, form personnel search teams and the list goes on. Summer, particularly this summer, has been an incredibly active time here at Zoar!

As the program year gets ready to ramp up again, and we work on organizing our schedules; this is a great time to think about how we Gather, Grow and Give. Starting back up this month – alongside the ongoing ministries, Bible studies, quilting, book clubs, small groups, property team, etc. – are Sunday School, Catechism, Women's Circles and more. Every one of these provides an opportunity for people to engage in a relationship with Jesus Christ who loved us so much that he gave his life for our sake on the cross and rose again on Easter morning. Not so we could have something to do on Sunday mornings; rather, that we might grow into our faith in a Lord who sees us as precious and worthwhile.

How can you deepen your relationship with Jesus this year? Through study? Through action? Through living a transformed life? In baptism, the Lord by grace has given us the gift of salvation. So, how do we respond to that profound gift? Or to put it another way, **Amazed by God, Energized by Jesus, how will we Gather, Grow and Give?**

Peace,
Pastor Paul

/// ZOAR FOUNDATION ///

Grant Requests Due September 30

The Zoar Foundation invites the boards, committees, staff and individual members of Zoar to submit proposals for support of new or expanded ministries of Zoar Lutheran Church. Since there are \$40,000 in Grant Endowment Funds available for the remainder of 2022, the foundation is offering a second grant request deadline of September 30.

Guidelines, application form and instructions for submitting proposals are available in the church office or on the Zoar website at www.zoarlutheran.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Zoar-Foundation-Grant-Request-Form.xlsx.

The Zoar Foundation oversees the Zoar Endowment Fund, Zoar Operating Fund, Kurfis Fund for Youth Ministry and the Kazmaier Fund for Theological Education. To see a list of grants the Zoar Foundation has awarded since 2011 visit the grant history page on the Zoar website at www.zoarlutheran.com/zfgrants/.

Additional information about the Zoar Foundation is available at www.zoarlutheran.com/zoar-foundation/ or by emailing Jameson Czech, Zoar Foundation President, at jamesonrczech@gmail.com.

Application for Zoar Lutheran Church Foundation Grant

Application Dates: Before March 31st or September 30th

Date of Application: _____ Grant Amount Requested: _____

FOUNDATION BOARD TO EXAMINE THE REQUEST IN MORE DETAIL

ANY UNUSED FUNDS SHALL REVERT BACK TO ZOAR FOUNDATION

Individual or Committee Sponsoring This Application: _____

Contact Person's Phone #: _____ Email: _____

List the purpose for the grant and the ways in which funds would be used. Include a project budget or projection of funds needed for each phase of the project. Also, the projected time when the project will be completed or funds used.

USE THE BACK OF THIS FORM OR AN ATTACHMENT IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED.

PLEASE INFORMATION IN SECTION BELOW

Explain how success will be measured in this project and how the project will be sustained in future years, if applicable. Name and give contact information for the person who will accept responsibility and report back to the Foundation Board on the success of the project.

USE THE BACK OF THIS FORM OR AN ATTACHMENT IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED.

PLEASE INFORMATION IN SECTION BELOW

Return This Form To: Zoar Foundation Board, 314 E. Indiana Ave., Perryburg, Ohio 43067

To Be Completed By Zoar Foundation Board: _____

To Be Completed By Council: _____

Recommendation of Council: Yes _____ No _____

Other Comments: _____

A look back... Zoar Rally Day 1986!



The **Heritage Committee** will be featuring photos, articles and other items of interest in the monthly newsletter. This month, we are looking back at 1986 with a photo capturing a balloon launch to celebrate Rally Sunday at Zoar. Be sure to join us for this year's **Rally Day on Sunday, September 11 after the 11AM service with a potluck, Bingo and mission**. Sign-up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E48A4A729A1FDC61-zoar1>

2022 Zoar Youth Service Trip

The week of July 24-30, 18 Zoar Youth and adult volunteers served the community in Columbia, SC, through home repair projects and being a part of Christ's love in action. **Thank you Mrs. Amanda for arranging and leading the youth on this trip!** Here are some highlights of the week. For more details check out our Facebook page, [@ZoarLutheranChurchPerrysburg](https://www.facebook.com/ZoarLutheranChurchPerrysburg), or see the full photo album at: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/Z8mCtfSneDoW24Ni6>



On Sunday, July 24, 18 Zoar Youth and adult volunteers set off for Columbia, South Carolina.



"Flat" Bishop Beaudoin was brought along on all of their adventures helping with projects and boosting morale!



Here's a happy painting crew. This was just one of many home repair projects the group helped with during the week.



The group explored Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary where they saw the beautiful chapel and took selfies with Martin Luther.



Teamwork makes the dream work! Many youth tried new things they'd never done before like pouring and finishing a concrete sidewalk.



Group picture outside the Next Step Ministries offices.



Hi, Pastor Paul! Another project the group worked on was removing damaged shingles and repairing a roof.



Working together to install new fascia board on a residential home.

YOUTH UPDATE

for September 2022



Sunday, September 11

**Rally Day Potluck, Bingo & Mission
Following 11AM Service**

Wednesday, September 14

**Parent & Youth Catechism Information
Meeting 6:30-7:30PM**

Sunday, September 18

Sunday School Begins 9:45-10:45AM

Sunday, September 18

LWR Care Kit Packing 4-6PM

Acolytes Needed – We need YOU to help be an acolyte! Historically, the role of acolyte has been filled by our 7th and 8th grade Catechism Class. Due to the nature of the past few years, we have opened up this opportunity to all students entering 5th-9th grades this Fall. Please note: upon the return of Catechism Classes* (Wednesday, September 14) our 7th and 8th graders will be assigned as the primary acolytes as a part of their class requirements and expectations.

Register for Sunday School – Register for another faith-filled year in Zoar Sunday School! Preschool children (age 3) - 12th grade students are invited to join us. Sunday School is held every Sunday from 9:45-10:45 AM. First day of Sunday School is Sunday, September 18. Register here: <https://vbspro.events/p/events/zoarsundayschool2022-2023>.

Rally Day – Mark your calendar and save the date for Rally Day 2022 Sunday, September 11! Come Home to Zoar by joining us for a picnic lunch immediately following 11AM worship service with food, games and fellowship. A main dish will be provided and those attending are asked to bring a side dish to share. As an act of goodwill, we will also be collecting cans of soup to be donated to PCU. RSVP here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e48a4a729a1fdc61-zoar1>. We can't wait to kick off the year together.

***Catechism Classes** – Catechism classes for our 2022-23 7th and 8th graders begin in September! Join us Wednesday, September 14 for pizza at 6PM followed by our parent and youth meeting from 6:30-7:30PM where information will be shared on the confirmation schedule, acolyte assignments and Catechism requirements.

Lutheran World Relief Care Kit Packing – Join us Sunday, September 18 from 4-6PM for an afternoon of service and devotion led by members of our Youth and Young Adult Committee. We will be working together to pack care kits for Lutheran World Relief. Sign-up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0948aeab2ca6f85-lutheran1>. **IMPORTANT:** A 2022-2023 Youth Activities Media & Medical Release Form is required for all to attend. Please bring the completed form with you to the event and turn it in to the adult leaders. Form can be found here: <https://files.constantcontact.com/2ac42ca7101/ef570a37-5a3d-4ff9-abc6-2f7e28ad86de.pdf>.

Trunk or Treat – Grab your friends, put on your costumes and join the fun! There will be food, games and treats for all. Decorate your vehicle and pass out candy to all the kids. Join us on Sunday, October 30. Festivities begin at 6PM.



from
Karen

**Chair of Youth and
Young Adult Committee**

Hi there, Karen Mathison here. You might know me as Peter's mom or Emma's mom or a past church Council President. Right now I write to you as the Youth and Young Adult Committee Chair. Most chairs have four legs to make them easy to sit on. Ever sit on a wobbly chair? They feel unbalanced and are easy to fall off. As the school year begins and the fall season approaches, we all want a sense of four even legs on a chair. A recent article from Springtide Research Institute indicates that young people need more trusted adult relationships in their lives. Connecting youth with even just one additional trusted adult can reduce their feelings of loneliness, isolation and stress. But when young people are connected with five or more trusted adults it significantly changes the game positively for their life. That's where you come in. We all want a place to belong – a chair with four solid, strong legs to support and hold us up. In a recent report I counted more than 410 children/young people from birth to age 25 who are members of Zoar. Read that again. When they show up to help, serve, worship, sing, pray, to be here – notice them, approach them, make them feel known. The more we do that as the grownups in their lives – the better the chair for them AND for you.

Blessings,
Karen Mathison

WORSHIP IN SEPTEMBER

SEPTEMBER 3/4: FREED – FROM AND FOR

Moses reminds the people of Israel they have the freedom to choose between life and prosperity or death and adversity. Ironically, this freedom to choose life comes through the freedom to choose obedience to the commands of God. In other words, Moses tells the people, they are free to choose bondage to God and life or bondage to sin and death. Either way they will be bound to something. In Christ, freedom comes from letting go. Freedom comes through giving away and trusting Jesus. In Christ we are free people. Free to choose life, free to choose faithfulness, and free to open our arms wide and receive the free grace of God. This is the God who chooses to never stop loving us.

SEPTEMBER 10/11: LOST AND FOUND

God reconciles with the idol-worshipping people of Israel. The risen Lord calls the violent, blasphemous persecutor, Paul. The faithful shepherd rescues the wandering sheep and carries it home. The woman who lost one of her 10 silver coins searches for it until she finds it. Similarly, God doesn't abandon people even when people abandon God. The cross and resurrection testify to God's faithfulness in that regard. God rescues strays one by one, making the first move to find the lost and create new hearts in them. When Moses holds God to promises already made in the covenant, the breathtaking picture emerges of a God so committed to relationship that God is influenced—changed—by what people need and ask. This faithfulness of God, shared with overflowing grace in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus, is patient, forgiving, energetic and ready to celebrate. Take the bread and cup—Jesus hosts the worshiping assembly again this week to welcome sinners and eat with them! Suddenly, “sinner” is no longer the best name for us. Try “guest,” “graced,” “gifted,” “loved” and “empowered.” Then it's time to follow Jesus out of the gathered assembly and into the world as apprentice sleuths for missing persons, bent on finding the lost and the broken and giving them an invitation to come home.

SEPTEMBER 17/18: LOVE OR MONEY?

A rich landowner tells his unsatisfactory manager he's going to fire him. We don't know how long the employee had to clear his desk, but apparently it was long enough to win friends and influence the people who had accounts with his boss. The manager called them in and reduced their debt. When the boss heard about it, for some reason he didn't call his lawyer but sat back and laughed in admiration. How could Jesus tell a story where the main character is a crook? In God's economy, people matter more than profits. The prophet (first reading), the psalmist, and Jesus, telling the parable, agree on this. The epistle writer adds a prayer for “a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity” for everyone, boss and beggar alike.

SEPTEMBER 24/25: PLACE-SHARING

Today's gospel evokes our sympathy. It opens the possibility—described as an impossibility—of place-sharing, trading or sharing places with each other. It also echoes a common theme: the pursuit of wealth in this world can lead us into idolatry and away from faith in Christ. Instead, as the reading from 1 Timothy reminds us, we should pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness, so that there is no “poor man named Lazarus” dying at our gates. After all, the greatest treasure—our eternal salvation—has already been procured for us through Jesus' death and resurrection. Knowing this, we can share all we have with our neighbors, even our very place and salvation, confident that God will continue to provide for our needs.

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



from
Lee

**Chair of Worship and
Music Committee**

As I write this September column, the day begins cool with a bit of fog, a bit of drizzle, the threat of rain, and it is drearily dark like many of the days of autumn. This is appropriately so, for September not only is the beginning of meteorological autumn, it is the beginning of liturgical autumn and an autumn we have not experienced in quite the same way for some years.

We are in a period of vacancy since Omaldo Perez, eight years our Cantor and Director of Music, has accepted a position with Grace Lutheran Church in Lagrange, Illinois. He formerly wrote this column along with the paragraphs referencing the themes of the Sundays now compiled by Melissa Ellerbrock.

The Worship and Music Committee has greater responsibility in planning now. Three of us, Doug Cook, Karen Lundholm, and I just completed hymn and service music recommendations for the Sundays of Autumn, the liturgical autumn, just two months long, September and October. As always our recommendations require Pastor Paul's approval. We hope they gain your approval too.

These are weeks which reflect on the cost of discipleship whether in offerings, in caring for others, in working for justice in God's dominion, or in being gracious and forgiving to all God's people. In doing these things we sing hymns to our God.

Peace,
Lee Rupert

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

SEPTEMBER // 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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For a complete list of events, please check announcements in weekly Z-Blast email.

1 9AM Men's Golf	2 12PM OFFICE CLOSES	3 6PM Worship
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4 8:30, 11AM Worship	5 OFFICE CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY HOLIDAY	6 9AM Quilters 3:14PM Prayer w/Staff 6:30PM Synod Global Mission 7PM LLL Comm Mtg 7PM Social Ministry Comm Mtg	7 8AM Bible Study 11AM Staff Mtg 1PM Zoar Bridge Club 3:30PM Abundant Life II 7:30PM Uncorked Faith	8 9AM Men's Golf	9 8AM Men's Breakfast @ American Table 1PM Zoar Book Club 1PM Solo Again	10 6PM Worship
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11 8:30, 11AM Worship, ZOAR RALLY DAY!	12 7PM Communications Comm Mtg	13 9AM Quilters 3:14PM Prayer w/ Staff 6PM Budget Finance Comm Mtg 7PM Stewardship Comm Mtg	14 8AM Bible Study 11AM Staff Mtg 1PM Zoar Bridge Club 1PM Rachel Circle 6:30PM Catechism 7PM Resilient - Zoom 7:30PM YAYA	15 9AM Men's Golf 9:15AM Naomi Circle 10AM Resilient Book Study - Hybrid	16 12PM PCU Blood Drive	17 10AM Prayer Partners 6PM Worship
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18 8:30, 11AM Worship 9:45AM Sunday School	19 7PM Worship & Music Committee Mtg	20 9AM Quilters 3:14PM Prayer w/ Staff 7PM Council Mtg	21 8AM Bible Study 11AM Staff Mtg 1PM Zoar Bridge Club 6:30PM Catechism 7PM Resilient Book Study - Zoom	22 9AM Men's Golf 10AM Resilient Book Study - Hybrid	23	24 PERRYSBURG HOMECOMING 6PM Worship
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25 8:30, 11AM Worship 9:45AM Sunday School	26 6PM Popcorn Gang 6:30PM Personnel Committee Mtg	27 9AM Quilters 3:14PM Prayer w/Staff	28 8AM Bible Study 11AM Staff Mtg 1PM Zoar Bridge Club 1:30PM Abundant Life I 7PM Resilient Book Study - Zoom	29 9AM Men's Golf 10AM Resilient Book Study - Hybrid	30
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Our apologies...
the following birthday was accidentally omitted from the August newsletter.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ZOAR MEMBER:
August 15 Mary Layman

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ZOAR MEMBERS CELEBRATING 85+ YEARS IN SEPTEMBER!

September 1	Ruth Hentges	September 8	Betty Shufeldt
September 4	Phyllis Spoerl	September 12	Mary Cremer
September 7	Joyce Dauer	September 14	Ruth Alteneder
September 8	Harold Wolf	September 17	Sharon Guest
September 18	Marilyn Halbert		

ZOAR STAFF

Senior Pastor: Paul Reichert, pastorpaul@zoarlutheran.com
Marketing Coordinator: Melissa Ellerbrock, communications@zoarlutheran.com
Church Secretary: Brekke Ell, bell@zoarlutheran.com
Custodian: Paul Cannon

PHOTO CREDITS

Page 1: Melissa Ellerbrock
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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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CURRENT RESIDENT OR:

Pr. Paul Reichert
Senior Pastor

Worship Times:
Saturday: 6 PM
Sunday: 8:30 & 11 AM

Starting Sunday, September 18!
Sunday School: 9:45 AM

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costumes and join
the fun! There will be
food, games and
treats for all.
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