

Zionite *Newsletter*

Newsletter of Zion United Church of Christ

Dear Church,

Take a look at this photo. In it you'll see 4 remarkable young people who just made their Confirmation, 2 of our awesome teachers, and me. I had the privilege of spending one day teaching these young people, and I can tell that it's clear to me that they have had wonderful conversations with their teachers and family recently as they have developed their faith as young Christians.

One day I was talking with the teachers, Ted Camp and Troy Hengst, and they mentioned to me how these

young people told them recently that even though many of their friends do not go to church, they love that on Sunday, they do go to church with their family. Church is their family's "thing" on Sundays. And looking at these 4 young teens, I know it's true. Even through Covid, these families have been in church. These kids have continued to learn and grow in their faith, and it's obvious to anyone who knows them. These young people have even volunteered at our community dinners without anyone asking them. Not only are these young people living into their faith, but they're also growing into genuinely good people; and I would like to think Church plays a part in that!

So here's a little pastoral and parental advice to anyone who is reading this. Make Church your "family's thing". Get into the habit of setting Sunday morning aside for Church if you haven't already.

The truth is, kids benefit from growing up in Church, and so do adults. And when Church is a constant in the lives of our young people, they know exactly where to turn when times get tough.

So let these young people be an example to all: Church is their family's "thing" on Sundays.

And when you're not feeling well, or worried about Covid, tune in online. We're always here on Sunday mornings!

In Christ, Pastor Elizabeth



Church Events

What's going on at Zion?

- Summer Worship ► Sundays 9:30am
- Bible Study ► Monday and Tuesday at 1pm on Facebook Live
- Sunday School ► Sundays at 9am
- Nursery ► Open and staffed on Sundays at 9am
- Food Pantry ► Open Every Monday 11am - 1pm
- AA ► Saturdays at 10am
- AA: Rigorously Honest ► Thursdays at 5:30pm
- Exercise With Dawn ► Wednesdays, 6pm
- June 2, 3pm ► Food Giveaway at Grace UCC
- June 5th, 11am ► Confirmation
- June 10th, 7-10pm ► Youth Group
- June 11th, 11am ► Memorial Service for Jeanie Schmeichel
- June 14th, 7pm ► Consistory
- June 20th, 6pm ► Trustees
- June 18th, 11am ► Women's Fellowship
- June 25th, 10am ► Community Dinner, 5-6pm
- July 1st, 3pm ► Food Giveaway and BBQ at Grace UCC
- July 6, 6pm ► Exercise Class with Dawn
- July 10th ► Summer Sunday School begins
- July 11-17 ► Youth Mission Trip
- July 17 ► Kalee Preaching
- July 20th ► Exercise Class with Dawn
- July 25-29 ► Vacation Bible School
- July 30th ► Community Dinner, 5-6pm
- July 31st ► Baptism of Claire Durshordwe
- August 3, 6pm ► Exercise Class with Dawn
- August 14th ► Baptism of Vivan Doll
- August 17, 6pm ► Exercise Class with Dawn
- August 27th ► Community Dinner, 5-6pm

Sunday Worship Schedule:

9:30am Summer Worship

9:30am June 12-July 3 Childcare Offered

9:30am starting July 10th Summer Sunday School

10:30am Joan's Cookies & Conversation

(Summer Coffee Hour)



ZION UCC'S

SUMMER
Worship!

**SUNDAYS AT
9:30AM**

UNTIL AFTER LABOR DAY

**Starting this Sunday, June 19th,
we're switching
to summer worship!**

**This means that until we resume
two services in the fall, we will
have one worship service at
9:30am each Sunday. The services
will alternate Contemporary and
Traditional music based on the
availability of our musicians.**

**So set your alarms to be at church
at 9:30 each Sunday!**

**We will have coffee hour after
each service.**

Note from Church Delegate Debbie Grine on the New York Conference UCC Annual Meeting June 10-12

Doug King (my father) and I were excited to be delegates representing Zion at the Annual Meeting of the NY Conference, held at Silver Bay on Lake George. The YMCA Conference center was the perfect setting to “Release, Rest and Rejoice” which was the theme for the meeting.

The Conference was accepting the retirement of the Conference Minister and releasing him from his call.

The national UCC leader, Rev. John Dorhauer preached on transitions Friday evening. The new transitional Conference Minister, Rev. Dr. Marsha Williams was appointed by Rev. Dorhauer also on Friday evening.

Saturday we learned of the 15th Anniversary of a partnership with a group of churches in Germany, known by the acronym EKH. Members from this group of churches traveled to the Annual Meeting and presented worship on Saturday morning. This partnership is continuing, with programs for adults and young adults. The members led us in worship on Saturday. The workshop we chose to attend Saturday afternoon was sponsored by the Pension Board. In addition to providing many resources for Pastors and churches, the Pension Board is planning to start a UCC Credit union. It will begin first with employees of the UCC and eventually be available to all UCC members.

The Conference closed on Sunday with joyous worship. Rev. Dr. Marsha Williams preached, on the book of Psalms being a “prescription” for praise.

We thank you for the opportunity to attend the Annual Meeting. Next year the meeting is scheduled to be in Buffalo, maybe you will be able to attend!

Debbie Grine

Words from our New Transitional Conference Minister, Rev. Dr. Marsha Williams

I have no words to convey how honored and humbled I am to begin serving as your Transitional Conference Minister. I am grateful for the confidence you and the Board of Directors have placed in me and I promise to give my all to the work and ministry of the New York Conference.

As we learn to live and navigate with Covid lurking in our midst, our church doors are reopening, face-to-face meetings and gatherings are resuming, and we are all trying to figure out what the new “normal” looks like. One of my first tasks will be to hear from all of you about your hopes, dreams, and desires for the future of our conference. We are entering this new era together, and while we have a terrific staff and team at the helm, we don’t have all the good ideas. Many of those reside among you, in our pulpits, pews and communities. We want to hear them!

If you attended the Annual Meeting, then you witnessed the kickoff our Capital Campaign, “Today...Tomorrow... Together.” This is not just a catchy slogan. This is the theme that will guide us over this two-year transition period. As the United Church of Christ in New York, what is God calling us to do Today? Where is God leading us for Tomorrow? And how can we get there Together? These are the conversations I’m interested in having.

In the coming weeks and months Moderator Judy VanKennen and I scheduling meetings with the leadership of every association, as well as setting up opportunities for Zoom conversations to chat, dream and chart a way forward. Please make every effort to join us in the conversations. Yes, change is on the horizon, but with the Divine Spirit’s leading, It does not yet appear what God will do in the life of the New York Conference.

To God be the Glory!

Welcome new church babies!!!

Paige and Tim Rentschler welcomed their first child, Winnie Mae Rentschler, into this world on May 28th.

We can't wait to watch you grow, Winnie!



Stacy (Dabney) and Alex Doll welcomed Victoria Doll into this world on April 4th.

Big siblings, Makayla and Jacob, love helping mom and dad hold and feed their baby sister!

We can't wait to watch you grow, Victoria!



Food Collection for our next Free Food Giveaway at Grace UCC!

Bring in any shelf-safe food or items for this giveaway now until July 1. Place items on or under the table outside of our food pantry.

(See next page for volunteer opportunities.)

Items to donate:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| ♦ Toilet paper | ♦ Tuna fish (canned) | ♦ Canned fruits and veggies |
| ♦ Feminine hygiene products | ♦ Canned cat food | ♦ Applesauce |
| ♦ Personal care products | ♦ Juice (shelf safe) | ♦ Single serving fruits |
| ♦ Pasta | ♦ Peanut butter | ♦ Canned beans & legumes |
| ♦ Pasta sauce | ♦ Jelly | ♦ Chicken Noodle or Tomato Soup |
| ♦ Mac and cheese (box) | ♦ Detergent | ♦ Children snacks/foods |

WNYACIC



**FREE FOOD GIVEAWAY AND FREE BBQ!
PLUS CONVERSATIONS WITH
UCC GENERAL MINISTER AND PRESIDENT
REV. DR. JOHN DORHAUER**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

TRANSPORT FOOD AND SUPPLIES

SET UP/CLEAN UP

COOK & SERVE

HAND OUT FOOD

COLLECT FOOD AT YOUR CHURCH

FREE FOOD GIVEAWAY AND BBQ:

DATE: JULY 1

TIME: 3PM

**LOCATION: GRACE UCC,
875 E. DELAVAN AVE. BUFFALO**

**SIGN UP ONLINE: [HTTPS://BIT.LY/3NT78LS](https://bit.ly/3NT78LS)
(OR SCAN QR CODE TO SIGN UP)**



CONVERSATION WITH REV. DR. JOHN DORHAUER

**JOIN REV. DORHAUER FOR
BRUNCH AND CONVERSATION!**

DATE: JULY 1

TIME: 11AM

**LOCATION: KENILWORTH UCC
45 DALTON DR. TONAWANDA**

**REGISTER ONLINE:
[HTTPS://BIT.LY/30DFZQV](https://bit.ly/30DFZQV)
(OR SCAN QR CODE TO SIGN UP)**





Save the Date!

Vacation Bible School this summer will be July 25-29!

If you would like to send your kids to vacation Bible School, let us know what time works best for you: 9am-12pm, 1-4pm, 4-6pm. You can fill out this simple survey so we can tally the best time frame for VBS: [Click here for survey.](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RGZCCKK)

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RGZCCKK>

CALLING ALL KIDS!

June 12-July 3

Sunday Funday with the teens!

*After the Children's moment on these days,
the kids are invited to go with the teenagers for some fun activities.*

July 3-September 4

Summer Sunday School

*There will be group Sunday School after dismissal
from the children's moment.*

July 25-29

Vacation Bible School

*Vacation Bible School will be the week of July 25.
See the post above for more information and look for
the registration link in your email soon.*



BREEZE SOFTWARE

Have you used Breeze lately?

Download the *CHMS Breeze* app on your phone, or go to www.breezechms.com

To login, type in ZionUCC to access our church's Breeze site. Then you can login with your information. If you can't remember your login, or need help with your login, contact Pastor Elizabeth.

Check to make sure your information is up-to-date. You can also search for any other church member in the directory. You'll find their latest contact information.

And you can set up online giving with Breeze. Thank you for using Breeze!

*"everyone who loves
is born of God and
knows God."
1 John 4:7b*

Zion Health Ministry presents:

**Exercise with Dawn
on Wednesdays from 6-7pm in
Kuck Hall!**

**Yoga & Exercise:
July 6 and August 3**

**Weight Training Exercise
July 20 and August 17**

Are you interested in religious figurines
(like the ones photographed below)?

If you would like these (to keep, not to sell) please contact church member, Joann Teal, who has a friend looking to find a good home for these figurines.



Birthday Buddies is back!

Birthday Buddies Current List:

- ♦ Coloring Books
- ♦ Puzzle Books
- ♦ Mazes
- ♦ Learning Books—color, shapes, alphabet
- ♦ Graphic Novels—comic books (Dave Pilkey)
- ♦ Biographies—historical, sports, famous people, presidents, women

Gift Cards to:

- ♦ Target
- ♦ TJ Maxx
- ♦ Walmart
- ♦ Burlington Coat Factory
- ♦ Wegmans
- ♦ Tops
- ♦ The Dollar Store
- ♦ Michaels
- ♦ CVS

Calling All Graduates!

We will be honoring our graduates soon and we don't want to miss anyone. If you or your child has graduated, or will graduate soon, let Pastor Elizabeth know so we can honor and recognize them!



No summer plans?

Send your kids to our church camp: Dunkirk Camp & Conference Center!

First time campers receive a \$100 discount!



Mrs. Corrie is retiring!

After 23 years of faithfully teaching our Kindergarten Sunday School class, Corrie Louth is retiring.

We look forward to recognizing and celebrating Mrs. Corrie soon, but until then, join us in celebrating her 23 years of faithfully and patiently teaching our kids!

If you are interested in teaching our youngest Sunday School kids, please talk to Sue Clark this summer.





Community Assistance Ministry (C.A.M.)

Assisting our Community in Times of Need

New Church Ministry! Applications are available at the church entrance. (Ask Pastor if you need help finding the forms)

Community Assistance Ministry (C.A.M.)

Our Mission

To assist congregational members and our community in times of need for temporary financial assistance.

Instructions

Complete the following request form for consideration by our committee.

Name _____

Address _____

Amount Requested \$ _____

Purpose _____

For Internal Purposes Only

Source:

_____ Missions Fund _____ Pastor's Discretionary Fund _____ Consistory Approval

Funds Needed by ____/____/____ Request Received ____/____/____ Response Date ____/____/____

Funded: Y/N Date ____/____/____ Check No _____

Disclaimer: Any monies allocated will be at the discretion of the C.A.M. Committee, based on committee and church guidelines.



Check out our new ministry!

For those who would like to donate specifically to Community Assistance Ministry (CAM), you are welcome to give to "missions" online or in an envelope.

All submissions are confidential within the small CAM ministry team and the pastor.



New Committee For Church Improvement

A new committee has been formed to assess the church's assets. It is the Committee for Church Improvement which will be chaired by Laurie Mittlefehldt and assisted by Joyce Dolce. We will be asking for the assistance of the congregation in providing thoughts and ideas for areas of improvement or renovation. Please email your ideas to: ideas@zionuccton.com or speak to Laurie or Joyce. Suggestions will be collected until the end of April.

Zion UCC Tonawanda Health Ministry Medical Equipment Loan Closet

Zion has medical equipment available to loan. For information, please contact Debby Williams at DW1416@aol.com or call 716-563-2450.



In June and every month, remember that you are beloved in the eyes of God! This church welcomes and supports all people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender preference. You are loved, you are valued, and you belong here!



DRIVE-THRU CHICKEN BBQ

**\$14 per chicken
dinner**

1/2 Chicken, Chef Salad,
Potato Salad, Roll, Butter

**Thursday, June 30th, 2022
630 Main Street
West Seneca
3-6pm**

For tickets go to:
www.plymouthcrossroads.org
or
Use the QR code



All proceeds are being donated to
Plymouth Crossroads

Consistory Call to Order at 7:07pm by Troy Hengst

Members present: Pastor Elizabeth, Trustee: Ted Camp, Elena Camp, Troy Hengst, Mark Burr, Barbara Miller, Debby Williams, Robin Fowler, W. George Darrall. Absent: Sarah Hanley-Cousins, Edie Bauer, Peter Korte, and Jeff Quinton.

Devotion and Lord's Prayer: Pastor Elizabeth led us in the devotion and the Lord's Prayer.

Reviewal of Covid Policy -discussion about COVID status. Keeping things as is currently as COVID + levels have dropped in Erie County.

Approval Of Consistory Meeting Minutes - motioned for approval by Robin and seconded by Mark B. All attending members approved.

Treasurer's Report (Ron Janiszewski)

As of 6/9/2022 there is a balance of \$39,779.54 in the operating account and \$23,527.45 in the restricted funds account. The balance for the operating account does reflect the subtraction of the payroll to be paid on 6/17/22.

The revenue for May was \$15,667.69 and the net income was \$-1,567.27. The YTD revenue is \$72,199.00 and the YTD net income is \$-5,474.37. In comparison: The revenue for May 2021 was \$12,982.52 & net income was \$-1428.68, YTD revenue for 2021 was \$71,909.42 & YTD net income was \$7434.98.

It is important to note that \$5995.00 of the revenue recorded for May was designated for use in our ministry to assist the Buffalo neighborhood affected by the mass shooting on May 14th. This would indicate that while the Zion family continues in its willingness to help those in need, some of that income has come at the expense of other revenue lines since there was essentially no appreciable change in the income recorded for May 2021 versus May 2022.

Notable P&L events in May:

Acct. 53410	\$415.71 - Confirmation supplies
Acct. 54406	\$167.64 – Additional copier expense
Acct. 54702	\$-373.00 – Refund given after our response to their audit
Acct. 55101	\$325.97 – Custodial supplies (Ryobi blower & Church keys)
Acct. 56001	\$258.50 – Plumbing repair in Pastor's office
Acct. 60001	\$2978.00 – 1 st & 2 nd quarter payments for OWCM
Acct. 60002	\$932.00 – 2 nd quarter covenantal payment
Acct. 60008	\$233.00 – 2 nd quarter per capita charge

Motion to approve by Debby W and seconded by Elena C.

Note: It was brought up about doing visual cues and QR codes on the front screen to remind those watching or in the building about the importance of stewardship and giving so the church can continue to thrive

Trustee's Report: (Ted C.)

1. New projects- Trustees went through the list provided by Laurie and Joyce and divided it between Consistory and Trustees so it can be determined what gets fixed in what order and who is in charge of making sure it is done.
2. Security system/cameras plans being finalized this month
3. Parking lot was tabled for discussion to this month. The Town of Tonawanda will not allow more water drainage in their system so we would have to build a retention pond in the grass area when the parking lot gets redone.

Pastor's Report (Pastor Duffy)

Troy H, Sue Clark, and the Pastor met after worship on Sunday and decided to switch to summer worship this week 6/19. This will give our musicians and volunteers a break. Sadly, Corrie Louth is retiring as the Kindergarten Sunday School Teacher. We are in search of a new teacher to take her spot. We plan to recognize her at the same time we recognize our graduating seniors.

Seniors: Who else is graduating this year other than Jacob Korte? Any other high school or college graduates? Pastor will be sending out an e-mail as she does not want to miss anybody who may be graduating.

Mission Trip planning is underway. We are sending 7 youth from Zion and 3 adults. Together with the rest of the Western Area, there will be a total of 36 of us. We will be at the Pastor's mother's church in Billerica, MA (Boston area).

5k run is canceled due to the increased costs to hold a run in Tonawanda. Even with less than 50 runners, it would still cost us \$750. The youth will continue to do the breakfasts with Santa/Easter Bunny, and they'll hold a couple car washes this summer.

We brought in nearly \$6,000 to help Buffalo. Most of that money has been spent already. We're hoping to hold one more free food give-away And BBQ on Friday, July 1 when our General Minister and President can visit and participate. Details will be coming soon. Thank you to everyone near and far who donated, volunteered, and helped in any way!

Committee Reports:

Administration- (George)- Committee is working to find people to watch the kids during summer services and after the second service in September.

PPRC- (Jeff) -no report

Christian Education & Missions- (Edie)- Corrie Louth is retiring as the kindergarten teacher. She taught here for 23 years!

Coffee hour & Community Dinners- (Peter)- Community dinner went well this month. They served 150 dinners!

Memorials-(Mark) -Fee (\$3,850.00) for the 7 trees that were planted were taken from Memorials so presently there is a balance of \$1,408.40.

Community Assistance Ministry- (Jeff)- There were no requests this month.

Health Ministry- (Debby)- Dawn's exercise classes remain popular. The last class on eating habits was well attended, and we had some positive feedback.

Environmental Ministry- (Barb, Jeff)- Children's Garden is finally planted. Thanks to Barb Miller, Pierre, Robin F., Joyce D., Ed M., and Jeff Q.

Pastoral Care Ministry Team- (Troy)- no report

Food Pantry- (Jeff and Mark)- Pantry is going strong with much help from Mark B. Had 12 people come to use the pantry this week.

Altar Guild- (Robin) – no report

New Member- (Mark)- Pastor said there will be a new class for people wanting to become new members in the Fall

Old Business:

1. Troy: Clean up church date? Specific things needed around the church. Looking into Sunday July 10 or Sunday August 7. Will speak about it at the Trustee meeting coming up

Strawberry Festival Update- Rob V. feels we should wait until next year due to Covid and other health concerns.

New Business:

Another successful chicken barbecue making \$1,860.00 and \$300.00 in the bake sale

Meat Raffle will be live and likely scheduled for the Fall.

Coffee Hour- Kathy H. is going to continue during the summer after the 9:30 am service. It will become Joan's Cookies and Conversation in memory of Joan (for the Summer)

Two more upcoming baptisms!

Closing prayer: In the Church, for the people, with one another. Amen.

Closing: At 8:13 pm, a motion was made to adjourn by Troy H and was approved by all.

Next Meeting: August 9th (Skip July)

Respectfully Submitted,

Debby Williams

Consistory Secretary

All Consistory minutes can be found online at www.zionuccton.com/meeting-minutes/