



Zionite Newsletter

Newsletter of Zion United Church of Christ

Hello Church!

And welcome to your summer Zionite! We won't send out another newsletter until the end of summer. Hopefully you can find all of the information you need about our summer events here.

Before you begin perusing the newsletter for events and information, I wanted to share a song with you. The song is by Cochran & Co called "[Be There For You](#)". It's a beautiful song about being there for loved ones when they're going through death/loss/struggle/pain. It's a song (and a band) that I absolutely love. Here's a snapshot of the lyrics: *"No, I can't fix this feeling, but I'll be there for you. I know pain doesn't heal overnight, It grips your heart and it holds on tight. I just wanna be there for you right now."*

Part of being a Christian is showing compassion, and the best way we can show compassion is to be there for others. If someone is grieving, we don't need to say any magic words, we just need to be there for them. If someone is struggling, they might not need more advice, they might just need a friend.

When my brother died, my best friends wouldn't leave my side. They were physically with me the entire time I was in Massachusetts. One of them even flew home from England to be there for me, with her youngest child in tow. And at that moment I knew how much I just needed them to be there for me.

So maybe someone you know is struggling, or grieving. Don't be afraid to reach out, especially if you're afraid to do/say the wrong thing. Just be there for them. If they need you around, be there. If they need some space, tell them you're nearby whenever they need a friend. Check in on those who are struggling, because they might just need you to be there for them.

Jesus teaches us this—he says that there will be sickness, hunger, war, and all that bad stuff, but he also shows us how to be present with those who suffer. Instead of running and hiding, simply be there. Even if you can't make it better, just be there.

I do recommend you listen to this song—and a few others by them as well! Cochran & Co might actually be my favorite band at the moment.

And if you need someone to "be there for you" come to church. Join the Youth Group or Women's Fellowship; have coffee with some guys from church; build those relationships, and I know that your siblings in Christ will be here for you, no matter what life throws your way.

In Christ, Pastor Elizabeth

Church Events

- **Worship ► Sundays at 9am & 10:45am**
- **Summer Worship ► Sundays at 9:30am**
- **Sunday School ► Sundays 9am (9:30 summer)**
- **Bible Study ► Tues. at 12pm Facebook Live**
- **Nursery ► Open and staffed on Sundays**
- **Food Pantry ► Open Every Mon 10am-12pm**
- **AA ► Saturdays at 10am**
- **AA: Rigorously Honest ► Thurs. at 5:30pm**
- ♦ **Bell Choir Practice ► Wed @6:30pm**
- ♦ **Chancel Choir Practice ► Wed @7:30pm**
- ♦ **May 31, 4pm ► How to Make Comfort Crosses with Kalee**
- ♦ **June 1, 6pm ► Network of Religious Communities Annual Appreciation Dinner**
- ♦ **June 5, 6pm ► New Member Dinner & Meeting**
- ♦ **June 9, 6-9pm ► Youth Group BBQ**
- ♦ **June 11, 10am ► Children's Promotional Sunday Worship! One service at 10am (kids arrive at 9am to practice)**
- ♦ **June 13, 7pm ► Consistory**
- ♦ **June 14, 4pm ► Introduction to Pastoral Care Visits with Kalee**
- ♦ **June 14, 6pm ► Exercise with Dawn**
- ♦ **June 16-17 ► NY Conf. Annual Meeting in NF**
- ♦ **June 18 ► Father's Day, last Sunday with 2 services at 9 & 10:45**
- ♦ **June 19, 6pm ► Trustees**
- ♦ **June 25, 9:30am ► Summer Worship begins!**
- ♦ **June 28, 4pm ► Love Languages in Pastoral Care with Kalee**

- ♦ **June 28, 6pm ► Exercise with Dawn**
- ♦ **June 30, 5pm ► Chicken BBQ!**
- ♦ **July 10-16 ► Host Youth Group from Billerica**
- ♦ **July 12, 4pm ► Empathy & Brene Brown's "Atlas of the Heart" with Kalee**
- ♦ **July 12, 6pm ► Exercise with Dawn**
- ♦ **July 17-23 ► Youth Mission Trip to Massena**
- ♦ **July 26, 4pm ► Listening Skills with Kalee**
- ♦ **July 26, 6pm ► Exercise with Dawn**
- ♦ **July 29, 5pm ► Free Community Dinner**
- ♦ **August 7-11 ► Vacation Bible School**
- ♦ **August 8, 7pm ► Consistory**
- ♦ **August 9, 4pm Grief and Suffering with Kalee**
- ♦ **August 9, 6pm ► Exercise with Dawn**
- ♦ **August 12, 9am-1:30pm ► Retreat at Fatima Shrine with Kalee**
- ♦ **August 21, 6pm ► Trustees**
- ♦ **August 23, 4pm ► How to make Comfort Crosses and Spiritual Crafts with Kalee**
- ♦ **August 23, 6pm ► Exercise with Dawn**
- ♦ **August 26, 5pm ► Free Community Dinner**



**FRI. JUNE 30TH
4:00 - 7:00 PM**

**ZION UCC
15 KOENIG CIRCLE
TONAWANDA, NY**

**PRE-SALE:
\$14**



**DAY-OF:
\$15**

**WEIDNER'S CHICKEN BBQ
DINNER INCLUDES 1/2 CHICKEN,
BUTTERED SPUDS, MAC SALAD, & DINNER ROLL
GET YOUR TICKETS AT ZIONUCCTON.COM/BBQ**

Children's Program Save The Date

The Children's Promotional Sunday will be
June, 11th at 10am!

Kids arrive at 9 to rehearse, and practice
the songs with [this video on YouTube!](#)

Mission Trip Sign Up

Teens ages 13-18 can sign up for the Youth
Mission Trip! Sign up ASAP and contact Pas-
tor Elizabeth with any questions. You can also
talk to any of our older teens/young adults
for information on what these trips are like.

Church Bios

Would you like to submit a church bio to be
included in the Zionite?

If so, email it to Pastor Elizabeth.

It's a great way to learn more about our
members!

WNYACIC "In The Vineyard"

Interested in what's going on in our Area?
The Western New York Area Churches in Cove-
nant (UCC and Disciples' Western Associations
working in covenant together) has a newslet-
ter. Check out the latest one [here](#). (Copies also
available in the back of the Sanctuary.)

SPIRITUAL *retreat*
FOR ZION UCC
AUGUST 12, 2023 9AM-1:30PM



A SPIRITUAL RETREAT

led by Student Minister, Kalee Mielke

LOCATED AT OUR LADY OF FATIMA SHRINE
1023 SWANN RD, YOUNGSTOWN, NY 14174

REGISTER:

WWW.ZIONUCCTON.COM/RETREAT

Dunkirk Camp & Conference Center
Our UCC camp!

See Pastor Elizabeth for scholarships!

Pilgrim Camp: June 25-July 1

Entering Grades 1-5

Senior High Camp: June 25-July 1

Entering Grades 10-Graduates

Outdoor Adventure Camp: July 16-22

Entering Grades 3-8

Jr. High Camp: July 2-8

Entering Grades 7-10

Pioneer Camp: July 30-Aug 5

Entering Grades 3-7

Swim & Soccer Camp: Aug 6-12

Entering Grades 3-10

**all camps except Outdoor, Swim/Soccer have a
UCC-worship component*



Walter and friends outside of their Dunkirk Cabin in 2022!

July 17-23, 2023

WAY
MISSION TRIP

WESTERN AREA YOUTH AGES 13+
REGISTER FOR THE WAY SUMMER MISSION TRIP
WWW.ZIONUCCTON.COM/WAY

HOST CHURCH: EMMAUEL UCC, MASSENA, NY

ZION UCC'S

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

August 7-11

9:00am-12:00pm

COKESBURY'S



Register today!

Kids ages 4-12

www.zionuccton.com/VBS

Zion United Church of Christ

15 Koenig Circle

Tonawanda, NY 14150

New Member Dinner & Meeting!

Are you interested in joining the church?
If so, join us for dinner and a meeting on
Monday, June 5th at 6pm
in Kuck Hall.

All are welcome!

Whether you know you want to join or
you just want to know more—come and
have dinner and conversation with the
Pastor and the New Member Team!

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Youth Mission Trip Sign Up

Youth Ages 13-18

www.zionuccton.com/WAY

Chicken BBQ Tickets

Pre-Sale until June 23rd

www.zionuccton.com/BBQ

NY Conference Annual Meeting Volunteer

Volunteer to help for the NY Conference

Annual Meeting in Niagara Falls

www.zionuccton.com/Volunteer

VBS Sign Up

August 7-11, 9am-12pm

www.zionuccton.com/VBS

Sunday School Forms

Parents, take a moment to fill out this Sun-
day School form if you haven't already.

www.zionuccton.com/sunday-school/

Wedding Forms

Have an upcoming wedding to schedule?

www.zionuccton.com/weddings/

Rental Forms

Need to rent Kuck Hall or a classroom? The
Rental form is now online:

www.zionuccton.com/rental-agreement/

Funeral Planning Forms

Have you taken time to fill out your Funeral
Planning form? You can do so at any time on
our website.

www.zionuccton.com/funeral-plans/

PASTORAL CARE CLASSES

With Kalee!

- Are you interested in becoming a more compassionate listener?
- Are you interested in visiting church members in nursing homes?
- Do you have a loved one with dementia who you want to support with greater emotional care?
- If any of this pertains to you, join our Student Minister, Kalee, for her summer classes!



DATES: ALL CLASSES ARE AT 4PM

- Wednesday, May 31st: How to Make Comfort Crosses
- Wednesday, June 14th: Introduction to Pastoral Care Visits
- Wednesday, June 28th: Love Languages in Pastoral Care, (For people interested in reflection from their visits, we will have time for reflection from 5:00-6:00)
- Wednesday, July 12th: Empathy and Brene Brown's "Atlas of the Heart"
- Wednesday, July 26th: Listening Skills (For people interested in reflection from their visits, we will have time for reflection from 5:00- 6:00)
- Wednesday, August 9th: Grief and Suffering
- Wednesday, August 23rd: How to Make Comfort Crosses and spiritual crafts, (For people interested in reflection from their visits, we will have time for reflection from 5:00-6:00)



Seniors in need of lawn help needed!



- Are you a Senior and do you need help with your yard/garden?
- On Tuesday, July 11th, we will send out youth who are visiting from First Congregational Church in Billerica, MA to help our seniors with gardening.
- This group will be led by Rev. Dr. Katherine Adams (Pastor Elizabeth's mother)
- If you have gardening/yard needs that you would like help with, contact Pastor Elizabeth via phone or email and we'll put you on the schedule!



Independence Coaches

Attention: Evening & Weekend Shifts, Part-Time or Per Diem Positions Available!

Plymouth Crossroads Transitional Housing for young men is a volunteer program. We currently have part-time positions available. Applicants must have prior experience working with adolescents. Residential experience and education in the Human Services field are preferred. Excellent problem solving skills and mature judgment are a must.

Competitive wages and a dynamic working atmosphere await you!

Forward resumes to:
Jmcandrew@plymouthcrossroads.org
or dgibson@plymouthcrossroads.org



Volunteers needed for NY Conference Annual Meeting in Niagara Falls!

To volunteer to be a Greeter at the Conference Center or to drive people who fly in from NYC or Albany, click this link on our website:

www.zionuccton.com/Volunteer

To volunteer for the Child-care room, see the information below.

Children's Program Volunteer Staff

Program Assistant: Provide leadership and supervision for children grades K-5; work with Program Coordinator to implement program adventures

Floating Assistant: Provide supervision for children grades preK-5; assist with tasks and activities provided

Childcare Volunteer Staff

Head Caregiver: Provide leadership and supervision for infants-4-year-olds; create a safe nurturing atmosphere with materials provided

Childcare Assistant: Provide supervision and care for infants-4-year-olds; assist Head Caregiver with tasks and activities provided

Requirements:

- Safe Church Training (provided by Program Coordinator)
- Previous Christian Education/teaching and/or childcare experience preferred
- Head Caregiver should be minimum of 21 years old (supervision protocols)
- Some assistant positions can be High School or College students under 21

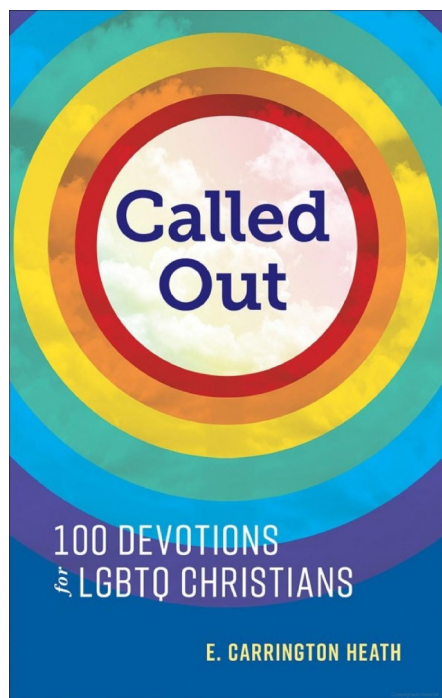
If interested, contact Marcia Tolman, Program Coordinator

marciatolmancm@gmail.com

“Bruce’s Blue Bombers” at the Hospice Buffalo Walk in memory of Bruce Williams



Our refugee family is expecting a baby this summer. Our Western Area team would like to shower them with a few new items for baby! If you would like to purchase small items on your own (diapers, blankets, onesies etc.) just bring them to Church and give them to Debbie Grine. If you would like to make a contribution toward a larger gift, see Debbie also. I will collect until June 25.



*Book recommendation for
LGBTQ Christians written by a
UCC Pastor*



How to Make Comfort Crosses

When: Wednesday, May 31st

Time: 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Location: Zion UCC
15 Koenig Circle, Tonawanda

Kalee will be teaching everyone how to make crosses out of clay.

Also, there will be pastoral care information for the summer including: self-awareness related skills, nursing home visits, and relationship building skills.

Check out our Graduates!!!



Brianna Grine

Brianna Grine graduated from Syracuse University in December 2023 from Syracuse University. Brianna graduated Summa Cum Laude and with Honors, earning a bachelor of science degree in Information Management & Technology. She has embarked on an exciting post-grad journey as a Technology Consultant at PwC.



Allison Roberts

Allison Roberts graduated with an Associates Degree and certification in pastry arts from Niagara Falls Culinary Institute. She is working full time at Vin-chet Bakery, a gluten free bakery. She also bakes with her personal business, [Alliecakescupcakes](#) on Facebook.



Brennan McCarthy

Brennan McCarthy is graduating from Sweet Home High School with an advanced regents diploma. He will be attending University of Buffalo where he is majoring in Mechanical Engineering.



Dr. Kate Peacock

Kate Peacock will be graduating from Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine (LECOM) with a Doctorate of Osteopathic Medicine and a Masters in Health Services Administration May 28, 2023.

She is the recipient of the Dedication to Primary Care Award for Pediatrics, and the Outstanding Student Award for the School of Health Services Administration.

She will begin her residency in Internal Medicine - Pediatrics at the University of Buffalo in June.

Check out our Graduates!!!



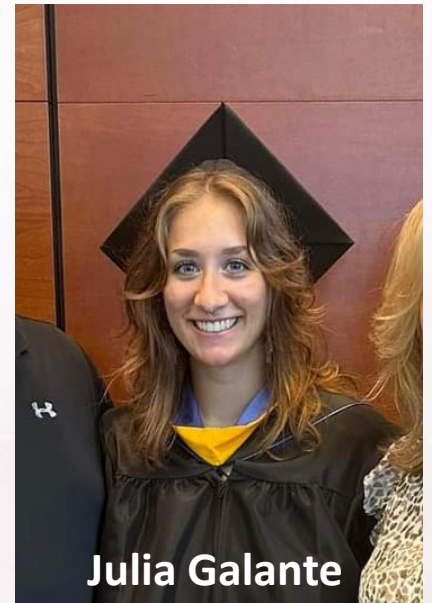
Adam Korte

Adam Korte is graduating from Sweet Home High School with an advanced regents diploma. He played Varsity soccer, Unified bowling and Unified basketball and was co-Captain of the boys varsity swim team. He will be attending



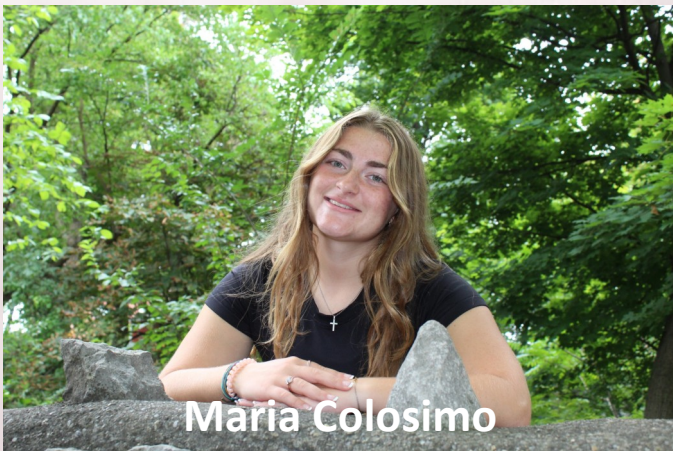
Amanda Bauer

Amanda Bauer graduated from SUNY Geneseo. She graduated Magnum Cum Laude with a BA in Biology. Amanda will spend the summer working in the Adirondacks and plans to find a job in environmental education and remediation.



Julia Galante

Julia Galante graduated from Canisius College. She is currently an environmental science intern at the Conservancy of Southwest Florida. She is assisting with research on sea turtle nesting and hatchling activity. After her internship, she is planning on applying for grad school.



Maria Colosimo

Maria Colosimo is graduating from Kenmore East High School, where she played Varsity sports including Soccer, Lacrosse, and Track. Maria will be attending SUNY Geneseo in the fall with a focus on childhood/special education. Maria also spent the last year teaching our youngest Sunday School class.



Sam Camp

Sam is graduating from Kenmore East High School and plans to pursue a career as an electrician. In High School, Sam played Varsity sports like Football, Baseball, and Lacrosse. He will attend the SUNY Alfred/ECC Northland Workforce Training School for his Associates in Electrical in the fall. Sam will also be coaching Youth Football in the fall at Tonawanda Football Clinic where he played for many years.

St. Francis Early Childhood Center is run by our own Sara Hengst! Talk to her if you have any questions.

Guiding the hands and hearts of our future
ST. FRANCIS EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

ENROLLMENT

2023-2024

We proudly offer the following programs:
3 year old (PreK-3) 3 day and 5 day. Half and full day
4 year old (PreK-4) full day
UPK for City of Tonawanda residence with full day option
Before and After Care

PLAY **LEARN** **ENJOY**

SCHEDULE A TOUR
Call: 716-692-7886 or email shengst93@gmail.com

St. Francis Early Childhood Center
70 adam street, tonawanda, ny 14150

Made with PosterMyWall.com

Notes from Trustees:

We are planning to repave the parking lot next spring (2024). As planning progresses, Consistory will call for a Congregational Meeting (with 2 weeks notice) to approve the expenses for the parking lot.

Is the Church in your will?

Have you considered including the church in your will? If you do, your bequests can help the church after you've returned to the Kingdom of Heaven!

Zion UCC Consistory Meeting Minutes 05.09.2023

Consistory Call to Order at 7:05 pm by Dave Dombrowski

Members present: Pastor Elizabeth, Dave Dombrowski, W. George Darrall, Elena Camp, Debby Williams, Rev. Pierre Albrecht-Carrie, Kalee Mielke and Trustee, Ted Camp. Absent: Mark Burr, Sarah Handley-Cousins, Peter Korte, Edie Bauer and Robin Fowler

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

Approval Of Consistory Meeting Minutes - motioned for approval by Dave D. and seconded by George D. All attending members approved.

Treasurer's Report (Ron Janiszewski)

- As of 05/02/2023 there is a balance of \$54,334.20 in the operating account and \$18,030.91 in the restricted funds account. The payroll for 05/05/23 is already accounted for in this balance.
 - The revenue for April was \$14,405.93 and the net income was \$2276.35. In comparison: The revenue for April 2022 was \$14,679.58. The net income for April 2022 was \$-2,564.60. YTD revenue for 2023 is \$69,616.47. YTD income for 2023 is \$8,832.71. In comparison the YTD revenue for 2022 was \$57,122.89 and the net income was \$-3907.10.
 - The only notable P&L event in April was the payment of the workers comp premium for \$697.00
- Congregational support remains strong. The year is starting off on a better than anticipated positive note.

Trustee's Report: Ted Camp

1. Security System: there is a need for adjustments in placement and power backup. Being worked on.
2. Parking lot; got lot design-will be straight and no longer diagonal in design
3. Maintenance of generator: Consistory needs to have a maintenance program lined up. Will need to be addressed in another monthly meeting,
4. New Board member needed to replace Rob Voss. Our Constitution and By-laws state that a youth member (under 21) is needed on the Board. Motion was made by Pastor Duffy to be the new youth member. All attending members approved. Jacob has graciously accepted.
5. Fundraising Envisioning: discussion about long term planning. Trustees will discuss it at their next several meetings.
6. Rob Voss Scholarship- Trustees discussed a vision to address funding in some way for this to happen. Kids selected will need to qualify for the selection process.

Pastor's Report:

- Children's Program, June 11th, one service
 - Summer worship begins June 25th, with one service at 9:30am
 - We have Dunkirk Scholarship Money available, see Pastor Duffy for assistance.
 - We are hosting a small group (about 13) for a youth mission trip from Billerica, MA July 10-16 (her mom's church, the same church that hosted our youth group last year).
 - Nathan has received the Internship for Environmental Ministry for this summer - grant money was already received to pay Nathan.
 - Youth Mission Trip is July 17-23. Kalee will preach on the 23rd of July.
 - Our Association is hosting the NY Conference Annual Meeting on June 16-17th. To volunteer go to www.zionuccon.com/volunteer
1. The Youth Group is heading north to Massena, NY for the mission trip this July

No Committee Reports this time due to committee meeting of new and existing members

Closing: At 8:55 pm, the meeting was called to adjourn by Debby W and seconded by George D. The rest of the group approved. Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday June 13th at 7 pm. Respectfully Submitted, Debby Williams, Consistory Secretary