



# Zionite *Newsletter*

Newsletter of Zion United Church of Christ

Dear Church,

In this Zionite, you're going to see a flyer for a "Listening Event". There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board (just so we know how much food to bring). If you are not busy that evening, will you sign up for this event? Pastor Pierre, Pastor Kalee, and myself are planning this event, and we would love for as many of our church members as possible to attend. There will also be activities and childcare for the kids.

Our goal is for this to be the first of many future listening events. We will gather for dinner as a church and be together as community for that time. Then we will hand out a list of questions and demonstrate how to talk/listen to one another. We will then break into groups of two and begin the talking/listening exercise.

There is so much healing that can come through talking, and being authentically who we are. There is also understanding that comes through listening. And relationships are built by listening to one another. We think this exercise will be a great one for our congregation, so please sign up on the bulletin board (or send me an email if you want me to sign you up). Teenagers are invited to attend too! We have an inter-generational church and we know how important it is to build inter-generational relationships.

Whether you attend every Sunday, or you tune in more online than you do in-person, we hope you sign up! Or if you are a chatty one or as quiet as can be, please attend and our list of questions will help guide you.

Let's get to know one another on a deeper level and together build the body of Christ.

Additionally, you'll see on the next page a flyer for our Better Together Fellowship and Luncheon at Grace UCC in Buffalo. Many of you came with us to Grace on several occasions to feed the community after the Tops shooting. That relationship with our sister churches has continued, and we are inviting our members to join with the pastors for a lunch and fellowship. I hope we have a good group of people able to attend and show our love and support for our sister churches. These relationships are integral for us to be a meaningful part of the greater body of Christ in our area.

In Christ's abundant love,

Pastor Elizabeth



# Church Events

- **Worship ► Sundays at 9am & 10:45am**
- **Sunday School ► 9am**
- **Bible Study ► Tues. at 12pm Facebook Live**
- **Nursery ► Staffed on Sundays, 9-10am**
- **Youth Group ► 1st Friday at Zion, 3rd Friday at Nativity, 7-10pm\* (some dates/times differ)**
- **Food Pantry ► Every Tuesday 10am-12pm**
- **AA ► Sat. at 10am & 1pm, Thurs. at 5:30pm**
- **Girl Scouts ► Thursdays at 6:30pm**
- ♦ **Bell Choir Practice ► Wed @6:30pm**
- ♦ **Chancel Choir Practice ► Wed @7:30pm**
- ♦ **April 9 ► Consistory, 7pm**
- ♦ **April 10 ► Exercise with Dawn, 5:30pm**
- ♦ **April 15 ► Trustees, 6pm**
- ♦ **April 16 ► Listening Dinner, 5:30pm**
- ♦ **April 19 ► Youth Group @Nativity, 6-9pm**
- ♦ **April 20 ► Women's Fellowship, 11am**
- ♦ **April 24 ► Exercise with Dawn, 5:30pm**
- ♦ **April 27 ► Better Together Fellowship and Luncheon at Grace UCC, 10am to 1pm**
- ♦ **April 27 ► Elder Law Speaker in Kuck Hall**
- ♦ **April 27 ► Community Dinner, 5pm**

## Upcoming May Events:

- ♦ **May 1 ► Registration Deadline for WAY Mission Trip**
- ♦ **May 4 ► WNYACIC Area workshops & Ecclesiastical Council for Hope Schwartz, 9am to 3pm at Church of the Nativity.**
- ♦ **Jr. WAY Day ► 9:30-11:30am at Amherst Community Church**

**For more events:**

**[www.zionuccton.com/events](http://www.zionuccton.com/events)**

# BETTER TOGETHER

5 UCC CHURCHES WHO CAME TOGETHER  
TO DO BETTER MINISTRY AFTER  
TRAGEDY:

**ZION UCC, GRACE UCC, NEW COVENANT UCC,  
PILGRIM ST. LUKE'S UCC, GOOD SHEPHERD UCC**



Members of these 5 churches will join together for fellowship and lunch at Grace UCC, 875 E Delevan Ave. Buffalo, NY 14215

Sign up sheet on the bulletin board

**Are you familiar with these links?**

## Consistory Meeting Minutes

[www.zionuccton.com/meeting-minutes](http://www.zionuccton.com/meeting-minutes)

## Sunday School Forms

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

[www.zionuccton.com/sunday-school/](http://www.zionuccton.com/sunday-school/)

## Wedding Forms

Have an upcoming wedding to schedule?

[www.zionuccton.com/weddings/](http://www.zionuccton.com/weddings/)

## Rental Forms

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

[www.zionuccton.com/rental-agreement/](http://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/](http://www.zionuccton.com/funeral-plans/)





# Western Area Youth Mission Trip

July 8-14

## WESTERN AREA YOUTH (WAY)

**Next Youth Group: April 19th** at Church of the Nativity, 6-9pm, together with WAY and HEAP (youth group organized by the Buffalo Peacemakers). See flyer below!

For teenagers entering Grade 8+

Join us for our **summer mission trip** to Detroit, NY! (Staying in Livonia)

Register by May 1st at [www.zionuccton.com/WAY](http://www.zionuccton.com/WAY)

## JR. WAY

For kids Grades K-6, sign up for our second **Jr. WAY Day!**

Register online at [www.zionuccton.com/JRWAY](http://www.zionuccton.com/JRWAY)



**Youth**  
**GROUP**  
**DINNER, FUN, WORSHIP**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 19**  
**6:00PM-9:00PM**

**1530 Colvin Blvd. Tonawanda, NY**

**Youth Leaders RSVP to Rev. Elizabeth Duffy**  
**[duffy.pastor@gmail.com](mailto:duffy.pastor@gmail.com)**



## Jr. WAY Creation Day

May 11<sup>th</sup> 9:30 – 11:30am

Grades K-6

@Amherst Community Church

RSVP to [zionuccton.com/JRWAY](http://zionuccton.com/JRWAY)





ZION UCC'S

# LISTENING DINNER

Join us for dinner and community building through listening!

TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 5:30-7:30PM



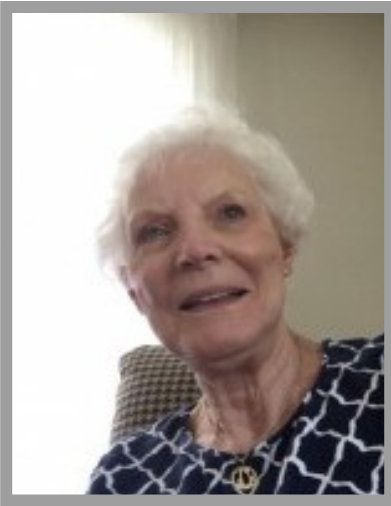
## GET TO KNOW MEMBERS OF YOUR CHURCH BETTER!

On Tuesday, April 16th, at 5:30 pm, we invite everyone who is a part of the church to join us for dinner in the fellowship hall. After dinner, we will break into groups of 2. We will take 30 minutes to listen to someone tell us about themselves, and another 30 minutes to talk to that person about ourselves.

This will build relationships and community here at Zion UCC!

Please join us!

# Memorials



## Celebrating the Life of Lu Cudeck

Lu joined us at Zion in 2019 after her husband had passed away. She grew up in the UCC, but her husband was Catholic, so she raised her kids in the Catholic Church. After her husband returned home to the Lord,

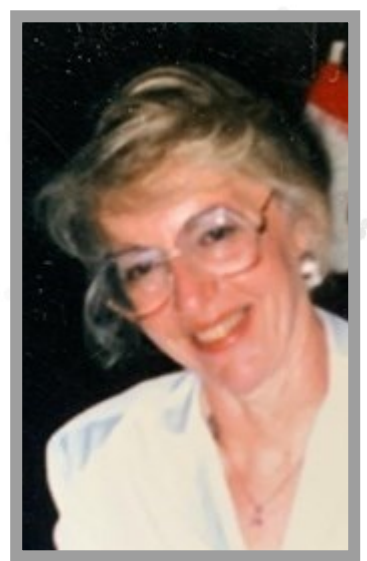
she decided to find a UCC church home. She was going to go "Church Shopping" but then she came to Zion and never looked anywhere else. She was involved in the Women's Fellowship and she called all of her beloved church friends her "churchies". She would end her phone calls with the phrase, "toodeloo." Lu battled cancer twice while she was at Zion, and continuously stayed connected to her church. Her life was celebrated on March 23rd and she now rests in the Kingdom of God.

"Toodeloo, Lu"

## Celebrating the Life of Suzanne Wagner

Suzanne is the sister of Jim Sweeney, and the sister-in-law of Gail Sweeney.

After a battle with dementia, Sue peacefully returned home to the Kingdom of God.



Her family had a private service to celebrate her life at Acacia Park Cemetery on March 18.

Sue is now free from dementia and fully restored in the Kingdom of God.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but shall have eternal life." John 3:16



## APRIL DINNER

<https://bit.ly/3vmEdvi>

## ELDER LAW information

These specially-trained attorneys will explain how to protect your assets in the event of illness, and how to plan for end-of-life. They will address long-term care and estate planning.

### TOPICS:

- ✓ Tax Questions
- ✓ Disability, Social Security, Medicaid, Medicare
- ✓ Long-term care planning
- ✓ End-of-life planning
- ✓ Elder abuse
- ✓ Bring your own questions as well!



ZION UCC'S IS HOSTING  
AN ELDER LAW  
WORKSHOP



Saturday, April 27, 10am-12pm  
15 Koenig Cir. Tonawanda, NY

Organized by Zion UCC's  
Health Ministry Team





SIPS SUDS SWEETS

<https://bit.ly/3IkNQgE>



**Join us for a fabulous evening filled with tastings of wine, beer, sweets, and light bites provided by local businesses.**

The event includes free valet parking, a silent auction, baskets, multiple raffles, candy buffet and music by Jay McDonnell. One of the evening highlights is the ceremony introducing some of our past wish recipients, making the evening truly special.

**Must be 21+ Years to Attend**

Proceeds fund wish experiences for seniors, HERO boxes for Veterans, gifts for our holiday giving program and various events for seniors throughout the year. The support of community members, vendors and corporate sponsors has allowed us to grant over 400 wishes to date! On behalf of all our wish recipients, "thank you!"



***Have you invited anyone to church lately?***

*There are many people in need of a loving, inclusive, community of faith. Don't be afraid to ask friends and neighbors to join you on Sunday mornings!*