

JULY 2026

Zion's Lutheran Church
THE TRUMPET

1801 East Second Street
Defiance, OH 43512
Phone: 419-782-8781 Fax: 419-782-6719

A Covenant of Love!

I carry within me an image of a covenant between God and human-kind that reaches back into the origins of time. It is a covenant of love, accountability and forgiveness, calling us to a life of faithfulness in relation to the holiness of God - and the needs of the human family. We are indeed "our brother's keeper," and we will be held accountable for the way in which we live out this responsibility.

The biblical image of the covenant is an image of human and divine solidarity, of relatedness and moral responsibility. It is in relation to this deep sense of belonging that my sense of identity comes - the sense that who I am and who I will become is tied up with my capacity to live with integrity and compassion in relation to the human family of which I am a part. It is a sense that who I am is intimately connected with my capacity to love. I am aware that the freedom and possibility I experience in life is somehow bound up in Jesus, who in some incredible life-giving way makes himself present in the deep places of my life. I have a sense - sometimes fleeting, sometimes very real - of what St. Paul meant when he said, "It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me."

It is this awareness that calls us into covenant with the mystery of God's love. So, this summer, take time for yourself. Find joy! Find peace! Find love in the promise His covenant.

Peace
Pastor Tom

***What happens to another, whether it be a joy or a sorrow,
happens to me"***





Worship Service Sundays @ 9:45 am



Altar Flowers

Altar flowers are ordered by the donor of your choice of flower shops. Fancy Petals will deliver to Zion's on Saturdays. The sign-up sheet is posted in the entryway. Please plan to take the flowers after the Sunday Worship Service.

Worship Service Online

You may watch Sunday Worship Service live through the Zion's Lutheran Website at the Website address below and clicking on "Live Service"

You may also watch any Worship Service at a later date/time on Youtube TV by visiting the Zion's Lutheran Website (see address below):

<https://zionslutheranchurch.com/>

Weekly Bulletin

Sponsor a Weekly Bulletin in honor of a Birthday, Anniversary, Loved One, or anything you wish. Suggested donation is \$20.



Memorial Prayer Garden

A living memorial to the memory of the saints, both here & above. The garden provides a place for peaceful meditation and quiet reflection for our church family & community.



Little Free Library

Take a Book. Share a Book. The Little Free Library is located at the entrance of the Prayer Garden.



The Labyrinth

Walk the labyrinth located in the Prayer Garden. Come and experience the power and peace of this ancient form of prayer. Brochures explaining how to use the Labyrinth are available below the Little Free Library.

Deacon Ministry

"Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, 'If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.'"

John 8:31-32 (NRSVue)

This month as a nation we celebrate political freedom ... political freedom that grants us religious freedom. Freedom isn't free ... it comes at a cost. Jesus paid the price for our freedom – Jesus is the truth that sets us free. Freedom comes with great responsibility. That responsibility is not always easy to bear. It requires tough choices and at times difficult decisions. The consequences of the subjugation of sin are all around us. It is hard to watch others suffer. It is hard to endure our own suffering. Pastor Tom and the deacons are here to support your journey along freedom's path. Contact Pastor Tom, your deacon, or any of the deacons to share your joys, concerns, burdens, and celebrations.

Your Deacons

The Ministry of DEACON

Acts 6:1 | TIMOTHY 3:1-16



Our Deacons

Helena Morris, Head
Cindy Wendell, Secretary
John Diehl
Doug Eis
Angela Gutman
Regina Snyder

Next Deacon's Meeting
August 9, 2026



Shut-In's

John Jacob

Kingsbury Place #154
245 W. Rosewood Ave.
Defiance, OH 43512

Carole Engel

Kingsbury Place #112
245 W. Rosewood Ave.
Defiance, OH 43512

Barb Jones

Glenn Park #151
2429 William A Diehl Ct.
Defiance, OH 43512

Elaine Davis

Glenn Park Edon Place
2429 William A Diehl Dr
Defiance, OH 43512

Linda Wagner

At Home
22868 River Chase Dr
Defiance, OH 43512

Deacon Picnic

The deacons sponsored a picnic themed lunch on June 21. What a delightful afternoon of fellowship and food. Thank you, deacons, for planning the meal and providing the main dish. Thank you, congregation, for the delicious sides!



Council

MARCH HIGHLIGHTS

JUNE 15, 2026

- Committees have been very busy with tasks and projects.
- Property has made the following improvements: backflow tests completed and posted, water extraction and remediation from flooding in Luther Hall, phase 1 of the HVAC project is underway.
- Hill Asphalt will be contracted to fill cracks, seal, and stripe the parking lot.
- 50 organ pipes are currently being stored in the music room.
- Pastor Tom will be on vacation for 3 weeks in July. No pastors are available to cover in his absence. Communion will only be celebrated July 5. Congregation members will lead worship.
- Teresa is working diligently to update phone numbers and addresses for the photo directory and add e-mail addresses.
- Secret Santa, a new project spearheaded by Colleen Holley, is ready for referrals. Applications for families and volunteers are available in the library. Details will be shared in the bulletin and newsletter.
- M&S Landscaping will be contracted to provide updates and repairs to the Memorial Garden.

CHURCH COUNCIL 2026

Rev. Tom Zulick, Pastor
Dick Anderson, President
Joyce Rayle, V-Pres
Helena Morris, Secretary
Laurie Schey, Treasurer
Mary Boals
Libbie Engel
Steve Graf
Colleen Holley
Dan Meffley
Vern Mullett
Donna Schindler
Gary Smith
Regina Snyder

COUNCIL MEETINGS

6pm on the 3rd Monday
of each month (except July)
In the Hofer Room

NEXT MEETING:

Monday, August 17, 2026

Preparing for Worship

*"Be still, and know that I am God."
(Psalm 46:10)*

We invite everyone to enter the sanctuary with a spirit of prayerful silence. Let us prepare our hearts to hear God's Word without distraction. The announcements for the day will be scrolling on the screen prior to worship, and printed in the bulletin, and will no longer be read out loud by the lectors or deacons.

Council



A word on giving...

"Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, together we do not lose heart. Yes, everything is for our sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving to the glory of God." 2 Corinthians 4:1 & 15.

We at Zion's practice "Grace Giving"; giving to God by how much he has graced us. If we are honest with ourselves, everything we have is His. We are in this ministry together as noted in St. Paul's epistle. From a practical side, what we give in our tithes and offerings keep this ministry going. This beautiful facility, which is beginning to need attention, is from where our ministry is based.

In reviewing the finances at church council this past week, it's the first time in such a very long time, we have a negative balance in our ministry fund after doing so well for a number of years, leaving carry-over balances each year. We need to look within ourselves how this may have happened. We need to maintain giving to the Ministry Fund to keep the ministry going. We need to give "extra" to replace the boiler and chiller so while we are engaged at our church, we feel comfortable again.

We, as council, respectfully request that when you give to the HVAC fund, you not take away from our obligations to the ministry and give that "extra" mile. Without the building being maintained, we have no place from which our ministry may occur. Without maintaining our giving to the ministry fund, we have no ministry because we would have no staff and even with a bright new HVAC system, we would not have the funds to from which we could provide power for its operation.

Respectfully and thank you,
Steven Graf

Christian Education

Upcoming Children's Sunday School

Dates to Remember

- July 12 Crafting Time—the Sunday School Class will be making special things for ourselves and/or for sharing.
- August 9 Blessing of backpacks and all involved in the school system—the Sunday School Class will be making something special for our school bags and During worship service, we will have special prayer time over our school bags.
- September 13 Rally Day to start the new Sunday School year!

Sunday, July 12th

CRAFTING DAY

The Children's Sunday School Class will be making some special things for ourselves and/or for sharing.



Journeying toward the 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering



Any youth interested in attending the 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering
Please join us for pizza and conversation on July 22nd @ 6:30 pm at
Zion's Lutheran Church.

Please let Pastor Tom know if you will be attending the meeting.

ADULT FORUM

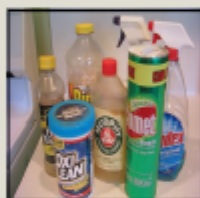
There will be NO Adult Forum for the month of July as Pastor Tom is taking some time off to attend his daughter's wedding.

INNKEEPERS' COMMUNITY MEAL & PANTRY

Our mission is to assist those living in Defiance with basic needs.

NEXT DISTRIBUTION DATE & MEAL
WEDNESDAY, July 8, 2026

ACCEPTED DONATIONS



The Innkeepers have designated the second Wednesday of each month at 4:30 p.m. as distribution and Community Meal night. *In June, we distributed 64 bags, 3 new sign-ups, and served 110!! Wow!!*

The July Pantry needs are:

Baby Wipes
Paper Towels
Toothpaste

Innkeepers' shopping list:

Laundry Detergent
Paper Towels
Toilet Paper
Facial Tissues
Dish Soap
All Purpose Cleaner
Bleach
Toothpaste & Toothbrushes
Deodorant
Bar Soap & Body Wash
Shampoo & Conditioner
Disposable Razors
Shaving Cream
Feminine Hygiene Products
Disposable Diapers
Baby Wipes
Adult Incontinence Diapers

We also accept volunteers & monetary donations.

Christian Sympathy

Reverend Ray Gottschling



The Northwestern Ohio Synod expresses sympathy to the family and loved ones of Reverend Ray Gottschling who died on June 16, 2026.

Pastor Ray was ordained into ministry in 1967 and began serving at St. John Lutheran in Groton Township. He later developed a new mission congregation in the Anthony Wayne area, helping establish Community of Christ Lutheran Church in Whitehouse, where he served for 25 years. He was then called to serve as Assistant to the Bishop of the Northwestern Ohio Synod before retiring. In retirement, Ray continued serving as a supply and interim pastor. He and Judy, were members of Zoar Lutheran in Perrysburg.

A memorial service will take place at Community of Christ Lutheran Church in Whitehouse at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 27, 2026.

The family will receive friends and family before the service, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Clergy are invited to vest and process. The color of the day is green.

Memorials in Ray's honor may be given to Global Refuge or the Toledo Northwestern Ohio Food Bank.

May the God of all comfort surround Pastor Ray's wife, children, grandchildren, and all his loving family and friends.

In Christ's abiding love,
The Northwestern Ohio Synod



What a great group of volunteers we had putting up the tent for our outdoor services! Thank you all!!!



Announcements

Cookies Needed



The Innkeepers are requesting donations of cookies for the Wednesday Community Meals. Please package them for the freezer, and place in one of the freezers in the kitchen. Thank you!!!

Praises, Prayers & Visitors



During services, you will see in the back of the pew in front of you, "**Prayer Request & Visitor**" cards. Be sure to fill one out if you have a praise and/or prayer request and drop it in the designated basket in the back of the sanctuary. The reverse side of the card is for visitors to fill out so we have their information and can welcome them and send them info on any upcoming events and services.

The Pantry Needs Empty Bottles

Due to the donation of gallon sized bottles of hand soap, the pantry needs empty bottles to refill such as empty individual hand soap bottles (both foaming hand soap type and regular type). We also need empty individual dish soap bottles to refill. All can be placed in the chest in the Narthex. Thank you for recycling with us!



The weekly announcements are scrolled up on the screen before Sunday's worship service beginning at 9:45 am. When you enter the sanctuary, please be mindful of others as we prepare for worship.



Something to keep in mind if ordering Altar Flowers:

Fancy Petals no longer delivers on Saturdays and their prices have raised. Kircher's delivers on Saturday's, their arrangements are very nice, and their prices are reasonable.

Announcements

July Anniversaries



Steve & Cindy Hageman	7/08
Julie & Kyle Gustwiller	7/19
Eric & Megan Engel	7/22
Neal & Marsha Deniston	7/29
Bob & Heather Fields	7/29

If your birthday and/or anniversary is not listed here or is incorrect, please call the church office at 419-782-8781 or email the secretary at office@zionslutheranchurch.com

July Birthdays



Lenore Doctor	7/10
Jan Brown	7/12
Caden Eis	7/12
Carole Zachrich	7/13
Stormy Gutman	7/14
Dan Meffley	7/25
Bill Wendell	7/25
Shaun Bussing	7/26
Leona Bailey	7/31
Steve Graf	7/31



Zion's Lutheran Church QR Code

Zion's new way to access VANCO Mobile—our tool for mobile giving!

Zion's now has a QR code that you can scan that will take you directly to VANCO—then you can proceed to make your giving choices from there i.e. General Operating Fund, Innkeeper's Fund, and/or the Building Fund.

You will see the QR Code in the back of the pews.

As of today, exact total raised is \$137,689.08!!!

Zion's Lutheran Church HVAC Fund – Phase 1 & Phase 2

\$137,700 RAISED

\$161,000

\$120k

\$80k

\$40k



85.5% FUNDED



**PHASE 1
REPLACE
BOILER & CHILLER**

**NEXT PHASE
Goal TBD**

**PHASE 2
REPLACE
REGISTERS
IN SANCTUARY**

✓ \$137,700 Raised (as of June 30, 2026)

⊖ \$23,300 Remaining

⚡ Phase 2: Goal To Be Announced

\$62,493.51 starting balance from Zion's Building & Improvement Fund
\$50,000 and Requests/SB Fund \$12,493.51

**NEXT PHASE
Goal TBD**

Your Comfort is Our Mission

Announcements



Many of our members have served Zion's in several capacities on committees, as deacons, in the adult and bell choirs, Innkeepers pantry, lectors, church Council, altar guild, and several other important areas where their help is wanted and appreciated! **However, we are always in need of more members to serve in the many needs of the church.** We ask all our members to volunteer to serve in an area of your choice or seriously consider serving when asked to help. Thank you

MUTUAL MINISTRY

Due to Dawn McKibben's moving we are looking for one member to serve on the Mutual Ministry Committee effective immediately. The committee's membership currently consists of Bill Wendell, Audrey Eis, Kate Frank, and Steve Graf. Pastor also attends most of the meetings.

Mutual Ministry can be defined as an intentional commitment to affirm and strengthen the mission of the congregation and the ministry of the staff to strengthen our spiritual needs and improve the health of the congregation. This committee existed for several years many years ago and was reorganized during the past three years.

USHER NEEDED

We are looking for one more permanent usher to serve on the first weekend of each month to replace Sue McKibben and Marsha Leaders. Both members have done an excellent job for the past several years. Please contact Dick Anderson with questions and your interest.

Upcoming Events

Friends of John Jacob
are invited to celebrate his

100th
BIRTHDAY!

Please join us for an afternoon luncheon,
cake and fellowship.

September 19, 2026
@ Zion's Luther Hall
From 1:00 pm—4:00 pm

NOTE: To keep the celebration comfortable and
joyful, we kindly request casual attire.
No gifts please.

This will be an adults only celebration.

Please contact Denice Kimberly @ 419-956-2890
by
August 19th to RSVP.

Upcoming Events

The Raleigh Ringers



The Raleigh Ringers is an internationally acclaimed, Emmy-nominated, advanced community handbell choir that dazzles concert audiences.

*Free Concert
@ Founders Hall
Archbold, OH
July 3, 2026 @ 7:00 pm*

NORTHWESTERNAIRES
TO PERFORM
@
ZION'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
SUNDAY, JULY 12, 2026
DURING WORSHIP SERVICE!!!

Upcoming Events



It's time to start thinking about school needs for the kiddos. Keep an eye out for great bargains!



This summer we will once again be teaming up with Tools for Schools to provide needed school supplies for area children. This year over 350 children are expected to receive a backpack filled with their specific needed supplies.

At Zion's, we will focus on collecting specific items:

- ☐ 1" Binders
- ☐ 24 packs of Crayola Crayons
- ☐ 1 Subject Notebooks
- ☐ Ticonderoga Pencils
- ☐ Black Dry Erase Markers
- ☐ Pink Erasers
- ☐ Glue Sticks
- ☐ Ink Pens
- ☐ Pocket Folders
- ☐ Composition Notebooks



Upcoming Events



Zion's Operation Secret Santa

ATTENTION: Zion's members, families, and friends with financial needs. Zion's will be doing something this year to help families with little one's at Christmas time.

All children ages 0–10 are welcome. We will try to help as many as possible.

To register families in need, please fill out both pages of the "REQUEST FORM" for **EACH** child and return it to a Zion's Representative or put in Colleen Holley's church mailbox.

(Forms will be distributed beginning June 14, 2026)

ALL FORMS NEED TURNED IN BY NOVEMBER 1, 2026

If you would like to help, please fill out an "OPERATION SECRET SANTA VOLUNTEER SHEET" and put it in Colleen Holley's church mailbox.

DISTRIBUTION DATE WILL BE DECEMBER 12, 2026

FORMS

**FORMS WILL
BE AVAILABLE
BEGINNING
JUNE 14th**



**FORMS
WILL BE LOCATED
IN THE
CHURCH LIBRARY**

Did you know?

Let Us Help You!



Please contact the church office:

- *To plan a baptism
- *To plan a wedding (at least 4 months ahead of time)
- *When entering the hospital
- *When there is a death in the family.

Fun Fact: Pastors have busy work lives, take vacations, and plan time with family. Please include them before you set dates for special events.

DEADLINES

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m.
(unless otherwise noted)

JULY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

June 18, 2026

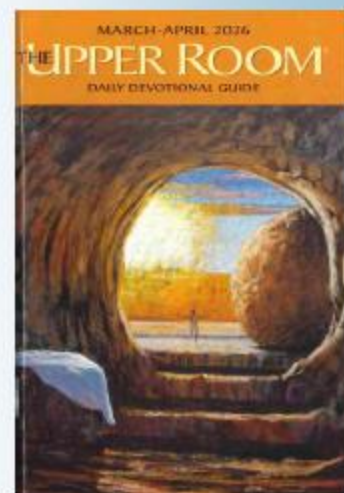
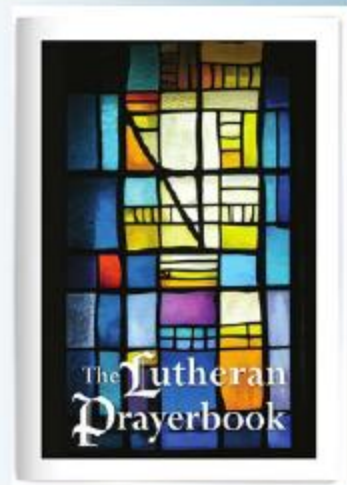
Please remember to call the church office when:

1. You will be or have already moved.
2. Have an addition to your family.
3. You have an address update and/or correction, or birthday correction.
4. New email address and/or phone number.



PUBLICATIONS

(Get your copy in the Narthex)



GET INVOLVED AT ZION'S



Altar Guild

Altar Guild is a group of ladies who alternate serving our Lord by preparing His Holy Table for communion every week.

New volunteers are always welcome!



Bell Choir

The Bell Choir plays during festival seasons and some Sundays throughout the year. Rehearsals are scheduled as needed by Neal Deniston



Book Group

The Book Group meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at 12pm in the church library. Please bring your book & join us.

Next Meeting:

Mon, July 13 @ 12pm



Lutherans of Long Standing

LLS meets on the 1st Tuesday of every month at 2pm in the church library. Next Meeting:

**Next Meeting:
Tuesday, July 7 @ 2pm**



Men's Fellowship

The Men's Fellowship meets **every Thursday** at 9am at Cabin Fever South.



Sisters in Christ

Sisters in Christ meets on the 3rd Sunday of each month at 11am in the church library. Cards are signed the following week in the Narthex.

Next Meeting:

TBA



Worship & Music Team

Meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 6pm in the Hofer Room at the Church.

**Next Meeting:
Does not meet in the Summer**



JULY 2026

<u>SUN</u>	<u>MON</u>	<u>TUE</u>	<u>WED</u>	<u>THUR</u>	<u>FRI</u>	<u>SAT</u>
			1 10:30a Dulcimers 12:00p AA Group	2 9:00a Men's Group 5:00p TOPS	3	4 
5 9:45a Worship 7:30p AA Group	6 7:00p Barbershop	7 2:00p LLS Group	8 10:30a Dulcimers 12:00p AA Group 4:30p Pantry Dist. & Meal	9 9:00a Men's Group 5:00p TOPS	10	11
12 9:45a Worship Barbershoppers to Sing 7:30p AA Group	13 12:00p Book Group 4:30p CIC Group 7:00p Barbershop	14	15 10:30a Dulcimers 12:00p AA Group	16 9:00a Men's Group 5:00p TOPS	17	18
19 9:45a Worship 11:00a Endowment 7:30p AA Group	20 7:00p Barbershop	21	22 10:30a Dulcimers 12:00p AA Group	23 9:00a Men's Group 5:00p TOPS	24	25
286 9:45a Worship 7:30p AA Group	27 7:00p Barbershop	28	29 10:30a Dulcimers 12:00p AA Group	30 9:00a Men's Group 5:00p TOPS	31	

JULY LESSONS

JULY 5 PENT 6	ZECH 9:9-12	PSALM 145:8-14	ROMANS 7:15-25a	MATTHEW 11:16-19, 25-30
JULY 12 PENT 7	ISAIAH 55:10-13	PSALM 65:1-13	ROMANS 8:1-11	MATTHEW 13:1-9, 18-23
JULY 19 PENT 8	ISAIAH 44:6-8	PSALM 86:11-17	ROMANS 8:12-25	MATTHEW 13:24-30, 36-43
JULY 26 PENT 9	1 KINGS 3:5-12	PSALM 119:129-136	ROMANS 8:26-39	MATTHEW 13:31-33, 44-52

ZION'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

"Driven by God's spirit, we will grow in faith and make Christ's love known"



1801 EAST SECOND STREET
DEFIANCE, OH 43512



419-782-8781



FACEBOOK.COM/
ZIONSLUTHERANCHURCH



ZIONSLUTHERANCHURCH.COM



OFFICE@
ZIONSLUTHERANCHURCH.COM



TREASURER@
ZIONSLUTHERAN-
CHURCH.COM



OFFICE HOURS
Monday–Thursday
9am–2pm



WORSHIP SERVICE
Sundays
9:45am



Pastor
Tom Zulick



419-344-2629



tom.zulick@gmail.com

PLEASE REMEMBER TO CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE IF YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION CHANGES.