

May 6, 2022

Zion Connection

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Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church!

We're all about helping you get connected -

With one another, with your faith, with the greater church,
and with opportunities to serve our community & beyond.

Zion Connection - It's Been a Year!

Yes, indeed, it's been a full year since Zion's Communications & Technology team started our sometimes weekly, more often bi-weekly, *Zion Connection* newsletter. Thanks to all who have submitted articles, info, details, etc., about our life together as a worshiping and serving community. Keep up the good work! As was stated in that very first issue - Please don't wait to be asked. Send your info as soon as you can! (zcnews@zionlutheranfl.com)

Lots of WELCA News

We did it! WELCA's recent May meeting was conducted in an entirely "new to us" format. After 2 years of gathering exclusively via Zoom, the women of Zion have learned there are some definite benefits to being able to come together virtually. We also have learned that nothing quite beats gathering in person, especially when a hug or a quiet, encouraging word is needed. The solution - a hybrid meeting! Several of us gathered in person at church while two others joined the group via Zoom. The end result was that all of us were together as the body of Christ around the same table, and all were able to share in the discussion, prayer and fellowship. The option to join us either at church or from your living room at home makes participating in WELCA even easier than before. We hope you'll join us wherever and however works better for you!

Church Calendar

Weekly Worship Service -
11:00am - In-person and via
livestream ([Link](#))

Men's Prayer Breakfast -
Mondays - 8:30am @ Rainbow
Restaurant (Info: [John Renn](#))

Pastor's Bible Study via
Zoom - Thursdays @ 2:00pm
(For info, email [church office.](#))

Mah Jongg Fellowship -
Fridays - 1:00pm @ Zion (Info:
[Gail Huntley](#))

Church Women United
Friendship Day - Fri., May 6th
@ 9:30am (Info: [Joan Missell](#))

Church Council Mtg. - Sun.,
May 8th @ 12:00pm

FL-Bah. Synod Assembly -
Fri., June 3rd thru Sun., June
5th in Orlando (Info: [Website](#))

Sanctuary Flowers in May -

The chancel flowers in May are
given by John Renn in loving
memory of his parents.

(WELCA - cont.)

With the opportunity to meet in person comes the opportunity to serve others in person - a major focus of our WELCA members. We've made significant changes to our activities and programs throughout the long period of Covid precautions, and so have other groups and organizations with whom we previously served. As a result, members of WELCA have been asked to consider how best we can re-boot and re-charge our mission and service activities in our community. WELCA would welcome suggestions and recommendations for ways, both new to us or well-known, to serve. We invite the entire congregation to share any ministries or projects that would benefit those in need.

And finally, gathering together means fellowship! While we traditionally do not meet during the summer months, WELCA has planned two fellowship opportunities. ALL women of Zion are invited to join us and to bring a friend. These two events are all about "fun and games!" Full details will appear in a later issue of ZC, but mark your calendars now -

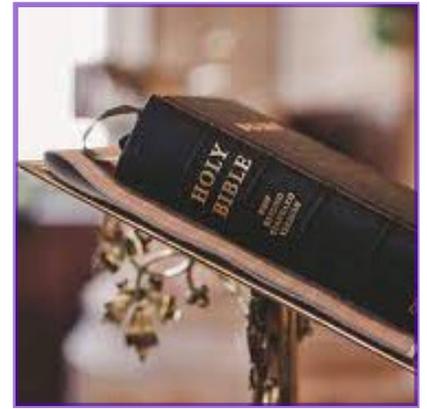
- Friday, Jul. 15th @ 10:00am- Brunch at Twisted Biscuit restaurant in Tavares
- Friday, Aug. 1st @ 11:00am - Lunch & Board Games @ Zion

Ever-Changing, Ever-Faithful - Food Pantry News

Article submitted by Joy Albrecht

Last month, our local food pantry, long known to most of us as Faith Neighborhood Center, was proud to celebrate its 50th anniversary of serving those in need in South Lake County. The center was founded in 1972 by a group of seven loving, caring, bold women (two of whom were important to me as a child❤️) meeting in a church basement at the First United Methodist Church of Clermont. The women's project started with sorting through the mountains of used clothing left over from their annual rummage sale so it could be given to neighbors in need. Once they realized, however, that food was an even more dire need, the women never looked back. Thanks be to God that as the need in South Lake County has continued to grow, so has the support of local individuals, churches (Zion!), schools, community groups and civic organizations.

As you may have heard, this vital ministry has recently changed its name from Faith Neighborhood Center to The Neighborhood Center of South Lake. What hasn't changed is the core mission of the center:



Sunday Scripture Readings

Sunday, May 8th

(Reader: Rae Starke)
Acts 9:36-43
Psalm 23
Revelation 7:9-17
John 10:22-30

Sunday, May 15th

(Reader: Ann Schultz)
Acts 11:1-8
Psalm 148
Revelation 21:1-6
John 13:31-35

Sunday, May 22nd

(Reader: Joan Missell)
Acts 16:9-15
Psalm 67
Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5
John 14:23-29

May Birthdays -

15th - Karen McCamant
21st - Monika Zetterlund
23rd - Diane Brown
30th - Margareta Akesson

Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

2 Corinthians 9:15

(Changes at Food Pantry - cont.)

We are a group of individuals bound together by a commitment to assist our neighbors who are in need. Actually, the change in name is merely a reflection of the exciting new path upon which the center finds itself in 2022. This new path is thanks in great part to the truly bold, faith-filled, and professional leadership of its dynamic director, Trish Kry. I can say with certainty that Trish would certainly have fit right in with those seven founding women! Under Trish's leadership, the following two exciting changes have occurred recently.

- The hiring of a full-time case worker has enabled NCSL to greatly expand the scope of services it provides. The case worker works with individual clients to help them connect with and navigate all available resources to meet their needs: SNAP (food stamps) and Medicaid application assistance, medical assistance, job training, health and parenting education, housing support, utility payments, child care needs, income tax assistance, homeless programs, and many others.

- A huge step forward in ensuring that NCSL will be able to keep pace with the ever-growing need for services in South Lake occurred in February as The City Council of Groveland voted unanimously to approve the center's request for the City to donate property located adjacent to the Public Safety Complex. This property, in addition to significant financial support from [The Community Foundation of South Lake](#) and [United Way of Lake and Sumter](#), has enabled the center to begin planning for a new building in which to house its greatly-expanded offerings.

As NCSL begins its next 50 years of service to our neighbors in need, **one thing that has certainly not changed is the faithful, loving, and steadfast support provided by Zion Lutheran Church and its members.** Zion members are among the center's most generous donors and its most steadfast volunteers. [Please click here](#) to learn more about NCSL or ask any of our wonderful Zion volunteers, Joan, Rae, Ann, Joy, Dona or Susan.



THE NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER OF SOUTH LAKE

NCSL needs our help now more than ever!

