

Zion UMC Newsletter - Zion Alive

February 2006
Volume 3, Issue 2

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Letting Go of Success

I want to make the most of every day. And, like most people, I've discovered that the best way to do it is to let go of past failures.

But that's not all. One can never fully enjoy today while dwelling too much on past successes, either. People never succeed while resting comfortably on their laurels. As Ivern Ball has said, "The past should be a springboard, not a hammock." The fact is, sometimes our successes hold us back more than our failures!

I once heard a story about the actor Clark Gable. A friend paid Gable a visit one afternoon at the actor's home. She brought along her small son, who amused himself by playing with toy cars on the floor. He pretended he was racing those cars around a great track, which in reality was an imaginary circle around a golden statuette. The small statue the boy played with was actually the Oscar Clark Gable won for his performance in the 1934 movie *It Happened One Night*.

When his mother told him the time had come to leave, the little boy asked the actor, "Can I have this?" pointing to the Oscar.

"Sure," he smiled. "It's yours."
The horrified mother objected. "Put that back immediately!"

Giving the child the golden statue, Clark Gable said, "Having the Oscar around doesn't mean anything to me; earning it does." The actor seemed to know that past success could be a comfortable

hammock upon which he may be tempted to rest, rather than a springboard launching him to the next level.

Biblical wisdom says, "Do not cling to events of the past or dwell on what happened long ago." You may have learned to let go of past failures and mistakes in order to free the present. But will you loosen your grip on past successes and achievements in order to free the future? Will your past be a springboard or a restful hammock?

"I like the dreams of the future better than the history of the past," said Thomas Jefferson. I agree. After all, the future, not the past, is where the rest of your life (and Zion's life!) will be lived.



Fellowship



Circle of Concern

In residential care facilities:
Maxine Hanrahan in The Heritage,
2820 Greenacre Drive
Erma Rettig and Gloria Kidd in
Birchaven, 15100 Birchaven
Lane



*Even if you're on the right track,
you'll get run over if you just sit
there!* Will Rogers



Birthday Sunday

The third Sunday of the month is Birthday Sunday. We'll give our wishes to all those having a February birthday or anniversary. There will be cake thanks to Keither and Marilyn Willford and Gregg and Melanie Fox.



*Look outward and be distressed,
Look inward and be depressed,
Look upward and be at rest.* Corrie Ten Boom



Coffee and Social Time



Feb 12 – Linda Doolittle & Vicki Pinks
Feb 19 – Will fords & Fox
Feb 26 - open



UMW News

The UMW will meet on Feb 9 at 7 with Rev Walters serving as hostess and bringing a Valentines' program on love.

The March 9 program will be brought by Marie Eichar who will also serve as hostess.

The last Findlay District UMW Spring Retreat will be held April 18 at John Stewart UMC. Bringing the program are Catherine Ritch Guess (author of Findlay-based books), Mark Barden (Director of Mission/Outreach) and Jamie

Purser (son of Catherine and musician/song writer). They come to us from the Western North Carolina Conference in the Blue Ridge Mountains. This should be an incredible celebration. If you'd like to car pool, talk to Marie Eichar and something will be arranged.



Leap, and the net will appear. Julie Cameron



Youth News

The youth thank all who came to the Chili-Baked Potato dinner.



Fifth Quarter is meeting on Friday nights @ 8:30 until the end of basketball season.

The youth will meet on Feb 12 - serving lunch @ noon and then March 5, serving breakfast.

The youth are working on making 2006 one of great spiritual growth. Please partner with our youth in prayer during this year. Also, please pray for the youth leadership who are also committing to deeper spiritual growth this year.



Watch your thoughts; they become words

Watch your words they become actions

Watch your actions; they become habits

Watch your habits; they become character

Watch your character; it becomes your destiny Frank Outlaw.



Of Christ

Building Fund

Thanks to all are so faithful in giving monthly to the building fund! We receive an offering the last Sunday of the month for the building fund. You can always place a check in the little church and it will go to the building fund.



You can also support the building fund by getting a Meijer card and showing it when you shop at Meijer. The easiest way to sign up is on-line at Meijer.com. The code for Zion is: 265027.

If you shop at GFS, simply tell them you're from Zion (no card required) and we'll receive funds.

Finally, Staples will give us cash back if you let them know to credit Zion with the purchase.

Our land is being surveyed to begin exploring how much room we have to add on to our building to accommodate our ministries.



Brokerage Account

Zion United Methodist Church has set up an account with Steve Arnold of Edward D Jones and Company to make it possible for the congregation to make donations of stock directly to Zion if they so desire.



I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

Psalm 37:25



Reaching Out

Brochures

There are some helpful brochures in the back of the sanctuary in the literature rack. Check them out. They may be helpful to you or to someone you know. Items include info on Zion (use this to invite someone to worship with you), Forgiveness, Prayer and other practical issues.



Website



Awesome news! Zion has a website! Tell your friends and spread the word. It's a great way to find out what's going on

at Zion (check daily), pass on prayer requests (share yours and pray for those posted), register your willingness to serve (as greeter or social time or kids party...). If you can think of other ways the website will serve you or reach out to those who are yet unchurched, please speak to Jen Iliff (Pastor Karen will pass on the word if you don't meet up with her). The address is: www.FindlayZion.com. Jen Iliff built the site.



Prayers should be the key to the day and the lock of the night.



Bible School Planning

Believe it or not, it's time to begin planning for Bible School! We'll have a meeting on February 23 at

7 to choose curriculum. Anyone who's interested is welcome to attend.



Lord, give me eyes that I may see. Lest I as people will; should pass by someone's calvary and think it just a hill.



Worship

Liturgists

- 1st Sun - Joe Adams
 - 2nd Sun - Keith Willford
 - 3rd Sun - Tom Foust
 - 4th Sun - Gregg Fox
 - 5th Sun - Denny Dorman
- Thanks for your service!



Greeters

- 9:00
- Feb 12 - Gregg & Mel Fox
- Feb 19 - Harriet & Joe Adams
- Feb 26 - Linda Doolittle & Vicki Pinks
- March 5 - Keith & Marilyn Willford
- 11:00 Greeters
- Feb 12 - Gregg & Mel Fox
- Feb 19 - Kim & Steve Benjamin
- Feb 26 - Mike & Jill Harmon
- March 5 - Jody rucker & Cindy Brown



A smile is a language understood by all.



Kids' Time

- 1st Sunday - Deborah Foust
- 2nd Sunday - Virginia Geaman
- 3rd Sunday - Tom Foust

- 4th Sunday - Tracy Fox
- 5th Sunday - Barb Tidd



Choir Schedule

The choir meets on Monday evenings at 7:00 (except on Administrative Council night and fifth Mondays).



Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday (from the Latin Dies Cinerum, meaning "Day of Ashes") is the first day of Lent. On this day, Christians focus intensely on their sinfulness and the necessity of Christ's suffering and death to receive salvation. Ashes are referred to many times in the Old Testament as a sign of sorrow, mourning, repentance, and morality (see 2 Samuel 13:19; Esther 4:1-3; Job 42:6; and Jeremiah 6:26). We use ashes during Ash Wednesday worship as part of a rite called the Imposition of Ashes. According to this ancient custom, ashes (traditionally made by burning palm fronds used on Palm Sunday of the previous year), are mixed with a small amount of olive oil and applied to the forehead of each worshipper. This mark, in the sign of the cross, can be a powerful reminder of our depraved and sinful nature and the total dependence on God for forgiveness and salvation.



Our service is Wednesday, March 1 at 7:00 pm.



People who start the day on their knees generally go through it on their toes

Sermon Series

Worship during February during the 11:00 am service will focus on the Healing Ministry of Jesus.



Acceptance

The current theme for the United Methodist church is "Open hearts...Open minds... Open doors". This reminds us to love and accept others just as Jesus did.



Real Ministry

Mission Sunday

Mission Sunday is the second Sunday of the month. We collect funds in our mission bucket. This month the funds go to Friendly Center in Toledo, The Crowe's as well as Youth for Christ. Food items go to City Mission. Please be as generous as you can. Please bring L-B Prayer Partner cards for Valentines' on February 12. They'll be delivered to the school on the 13th. If you don't have them at the church by STOMP, please deliver yours at the school.



What sort of church would our church be if every member were just like me? ♥

Ministry to a Soldier

Interested in helping a soldier be a bit less lonely? Check out www.mysoldier.com and make a difference in someone's life.



The greatest love mankind will ever experience is God's eternal love. ♥

Discipleship

Looking for a good website for your teen girls? Check out briomag.com and then recommend a teen girl in your life check it out!



Confirmation

The 2006 confirmation class is meeting! Please pray for our Confirmands as this is a very important time in their lives. We meet Sundays at noon until 2:00 through May.



Words may tear our lives apart, bring us stormy weather; a compliment tucked in the heart can heal it back together.



Misc

Please turn in your newsletter articles to Marilyn Willford by February 26. Thanks for helping to make *Zion Alive* more informative and helpful! You can also submit articles on the website.



The generation that will change the world will be the generation the world can't change.

Congratulations!

Liberty Benton's Honor Roll includes: All As: Eric Bowsher; Honor Roll: Devin Harmon, Keith Grothaus, Kyle Grothaus, Nathan Holdman, Aaron Svoboda.

Also, congratulations to Michelle Brown who was on the 1st place soil judging team and won 5th individually.



Scholarships

If you're attending a UMC college in the 2006-2007 school year, see

Rev Walters for scholarship applications.



Minutes of Administrative Council Meeting

Tom Foust called the February meeting of the Zion UMC Admin Council to order Monday, February 6, at 7:10pm with prayer.

Those present included: Barb Tidd, Tom Foust, Roger Brown, Audrey Brown, Tom Brown, Marilyn Willford, Marie Eichar, Bill Geaman, Gregg Fox, Jody Rucker, Jen Cliff, Kay Zeisloft, Mary Thomas, Rev. Karen Walters, Melanie Fox.

Fellowship – Gregg Fox reported the youth leaders were on retreat Fri-Sa with David Hoffman. Attending were Roger & Cindy Brown, Gregg & Melanie Fox, Jody Rucker. The youth will take care of the Sunrise service as well as Oct 29. At the Feb 12 meeting, the youth will discuss: having a shorter business meeting with more time for Rock time, opportunities at the second service. Second Sunday is STOMP and the third Sunday of the month will be a Rock/devotional time. The plan is to increase the discipleship of our youth. There will be a quarterly, 4-week Bible study. The leaders will spend time with youth and be sure connections are strong. Also, the youth would like to request they become a line-item in the 2007 budget. The kids raised \$8664 and used \$7596 in 2005.

UMW will meet Feb 9 @ 7.

Of Christ - Tom Brown gave the trustee report. The roof has been fixed and paid for - \$6125. The other side needs to be painted in the spring.

Roger Brown reported the PPR has been working on guidelines for pastors serving Zion. So we're all on the same page, the guidelines will be published in the newsletter. He then reported on the pastor's January activities. Expectations were all met.



Mary Thomas gave the finance report. We need to amend the budget a bit. The pastor's insurance has just been confirmed for 2006: \$6300/year which is an increase in \$552. The pastor's portion of this increased as well. The weekly need is \$2167.08. This has nothing going to building fund, only to meet expenses. \$138/year is no longer billed through apportionments but is a separate bill 9for life insurance). As o march 1, rent increases to \$850 for the parsonage. Mary moves the budget is amended to reflect these changes. Bill Geaman seconded. Carried.

Mary noted she did not pay apportionments in January nor the \$400 to maintenance.

Marie Eichar reported \$269 was raised for the Tigger project. She's also listed what the memorials are designated for. The memorial money can only be spent on what it's designated for (not general bills). The CD brought \$207.95 in interest last quarter.

Reaching out - Bill Geman/Jen Cliff. STOMP is resuming in February at Zion. Scouting Sunday was Feb 5. The scout report is appended to the Council report. Bill moved we place the new Eagle plaque where the mission banner is. Barb Tidd seconded. Motion carried. We've not been getting as many greeters as we need so beginning in April, we'll pass the sheets through Sunday School as well as worship. We need someone in fellowship hall and someone by front door for 9 and 11 am services. Joe's class will secure greeters and then Bill's and then Barb's. Developing a new program to bring in folks.

Communication - Cindy Brown, Marie Eichar, Jen Iliff an Marilyn Willford are responsible for updating the website each week.

Worship - Roger Brown reported for worship. The Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday

services are at 7 pm. The Community Lenten Service at Zion is April 2. Seasonal decorating is in the works.

Real Ministry - Barb Tidd reported the bucket money is divided among the Small woods, Friendly Center and the Crowes. Leftover funds go to a monthly mission. For February it's Youth for Christ. . L-B prayer cards are due Feb 12.

Discipleship - Kay Zeisloft reported Confirmation began Feb 5. Teachers are looking at curriculum. The Easter party is being planned. The Carnival is April 30. There will be no potluck on April 30. We're also looking at a Bible study during Lent which will be on Wedesndays.

The chicken BBQ is delegated to the Joe Adams class. Barb Tidd class will handle spaghetti dinner and Gregg's class will handle horse show.

Gregg moved we discontinue advertizing in Courier. Mel seconded. Motion carried.

Rev Walters closed the meeting with prayer. ♡

Scout Report

It has been 11 years since I first stood here as Scoutmaster and reported on Troop 324.

First, the troop's been making and shaping our future leaders. In the last year we brought another young man through the ranks to Boy Scouts' highest honor, the Eagle Scout. This made our 28th Eagle in 27 years. We had outgrown our honor plaques so I had this one made that should last us at least the next 25 years. Because of your sponsorship of Troop 324, this plaque represents 28 young men, some of who have grown up and represent themselves in leadership roles to their fellow countrymen. They include a plant manager, a lawyer, an accomplished theater actor, a forest ranger, a graphics designer, musician, a ranking Air Force Officer, a history teacher, and

an Army Special Forces Ranger Lt., to mention a few.

The highlight of this past year was our summer camp trip to Boston, where we found the U.S.S. Massachusetts battleship and spent a night on board the ship. Although today's navy has become so sophisticated that these huge battleships are becoming something of the past, there's just something spine tingling to think a ship could hurl a 16" diameter 4' tall artillery shell 500-1000 yards into the air and destroy an enemy ship. We also spent 3 additional nights in Boston, seeing Bunker Hill, the U.S.S. Constitution and swimming in the ocean off Cape Cod. But before we left Boston we had to track down the famous Cheers Bar that inspired the comedy series, so we ate dinner there and drank "Root Beer" from frosted mugs. On our way home we sojourned through New York City and waved hello and goodbye to the statue of liberty and Yankee stadium.

One of the great things about traveling with a Boy Scout troop is the people you meet who've either been around scouting or involved in scouting. A man named Sam Houston ran our campground location 1/2 way between home and Boston. Sam was a scoutmaster at Andrews Air Force base for 5 years when he was stationed there. All the boys of his troop were children of the men who were stationed there. Sam had some great campfire stories to tell, and Sam made sure we had all the firewood, ice and food and anything else we needed for our trip. He really was very proud of have a Boy Scout troop stay at his campground.

Since summer camp all the boys have been working hard on their advancements. Josh Schoonover will have his big test next Monday to



present his work to earn his Eagle Rank. Josh will be our 29th Eagle Scout. Cody Schoonover will also present his hard work towards his Life Rank and Ryan Magee has earned his First Class Rank and is 1 merit badge from completing his Star Rank. Rick Romick has completed all his required merit badge work and is just left to plan, implement, and complete a community service project for his Eagle Rank.

In closing, the troops' number is small at this moment, but we have made plans to recruit more boys into scouting. March 6th we have a Scout Fun Night planned at the LB middle school multipurpose room and will invite 5th and 6th grade boys from both Liberty and Cory Rawson schools who would like to see what Scouting is about. We also had 1 boy visit us from a Findlay pack that will be crossing over in February at his blue and gold banquet. Once again, I look forward to continuing our fine tradition of turning these young men into our future's leaders and I thank you for your sponsorship and support.

Jon Groves, Troop 324
Scoutmaster.

P.S. Don't forget our Annual All You Can Eat Pancake Supper February 28th, from 5-7 p.m. We also have Whole Hog Sausage for sale: 2 lbs for \$6.00. Contact me at 419-859-2252 for any questions.

