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Fall Zionite

Newsletter of Zion United Church of Christ

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Are you ready for some good news?

I need a moment to gush about you, Church, because there's reason to gush. There has been so much energy and enthusiasm in this church lately that it's clearly contagious. People are excited about church events and fundraisers (how fun was that meat raffle?!), new ministries are forming, people are bursting into applause after the choir sings, and we barely have enough room for our church kids. It is genuinely a JOY to be your pastor. How many other pastors can say that?

And you want to hear some really phenomenal news? On October 21, we had our HIGHEST October church attendance (excluding baptismal Sundays) in record dating back to 1987 (that's when our attendance records began). And the extra exciting piece of news is that this isn't an isolated incident. Our October attendance has been unlike anything we've seen at this church since 2005, and before 2005 (that was a good year for the church apparently) we have to go back to the early 90s to find similar attendance.

Now I know that attendance isn't everything, but the fact that there is so much enthusiasm in the church and people are inviting their friends to join them for worship, shows that God is at work in this place.

So I need to gush about you, because the church is the people, and this church is full of good, loving, faithful, kind people. This church is made up of good humans who try their hardest to follow Jesus and to spread the love of Christ throughout the world. So it's no wonder why God is at work in this place!

So church, keep being you. Keep being the church. Keep loving and forgiving. Keep worshipping and studying. Keep up the faith. God is doing a new thing in this place, and I can't wait to see where God leads us next. *Are you as excited as I am?*

Isaiah 43:19a See, I am doing a new thing!

Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?

Keep being you, Church, and let's see where God leads us next!

In Christ,
Pastor Elizabeth

Halloween Sunday School Celebration!



Kids, don't forget to wear your Halloween Costumes to church this Sunday (October 28)! This Sunday is one our kids won't want to miss (next Sunday too for Fire Safety)!

Important Church Dates!

Sunday, October 28 - Sunday School Halloween Party

Sunday, October 28 - All Saints Remembrance

Sunday, November 4 - **Set your clocks back** - Fire Safety Sunday, Baptism of River Ohlson at 10:30

Wednesday, November 7 - Pastoral Care Sunshine Club, 5:30pm

Sunday, November 11 - Baptism of Addison Kraska at 10:30

Sunday, November 18 - Baptism of Mia Shaw at 10:30

Wednesday, November 21 - New/Inquiring Member Meeting, 6pm

Saturday, November 24 - Thanksgiving Community Dinner, 4:30pm

Join the Sunshine Club!



The Sunshine Club is the new Pastoral Care team, dedicated to visiting and calling homebound/nursing-homebound church members. Come to this training to learn how you can bring some sunshine to the days of our members who can no longer make it to church on Sundays. Sunshine Club members will be assigned to a church member who they can visit and/or call. Training will be on Wednesday, November 7 at 5:30pm.

New and Inquiring Members

If you are interested in learning more about Zion UCC and potentially joining the church, join us on Wednesday, November 21st at 6pm for an informational Q&A. We hope to see you there!

Another Successful Crop Walk!

Thank you, everyone, for your generous donations to the Ken-Ton Crop Hunger Walk. We raised a total of \$371, an increase of \$51 over last year!



Congratulations Cheryl!

Congratulations to Cheryl Smith for her induction into the Kenmore East Hall of Fame!

In her Kenmore East Soccer Career, Cheryl scored 88 goals, and she holds the KE record of scoring 35 goals in a season.

Congratulations, Cheryl on this distinguished award!

Wreaths! Pies! Poinsettia!



It's

that time of the year! Order your Christmas Wreaths, Becker Farm Pies, and Christmas Poinsettias today! All order forms are available in the back of the sanctuary or online [HERE](#).

Ken-Ton Community Thanksgiving Meal

Join the Kenmore-Tonawanda Community for a free Thanksgiving meal on Sunday, November 18 at 12pm at Kenmore United Methodist Church.

Additionally, Zion has it's Thanksgiving Community dinner on Saturday, November 24 at 4:30pm.



St. Peter's UCC Invites Community to Charles Dickens Presents A Christmas Carol

St. Peter's United Church of Christ, 1475 Orchard Park Road in West Seneca, is excited to kick off the holiday season with "Charles Dickens Presents A Christmas Carol," a solo performance starring Mike Randall. The event will be held on Friday, November 30, 2018. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with the performance beginning at 7:00 p.m. Refreshments will be available during intermission.

The beloved local meteorologist, reporter and performer will transform into Charles Dickens for his one-man performance of this festive, heartwarming

novel. He is dressed in period costume, complete with voices and mannerisms of all the story characters. All are invited to go back in time and hear the classic story of Ebenezer Scrooge and be filled with the Spirit of the Season. Tickets are \$15 presale or \$20 at the door. Further information on this or any other activity of St. Peter's may be obtained by calling the church office at 674-1233 Tuesday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and noon, or visiting the church's website at www.st-petersucc.org.

**Annual Theme Basket & Auction Luncheon
Saturday, November 3rd**

The Columns Banquets 2221 Transit Rd., Elma, NY 14059

Doors open 11am Buffet Luncheon 12:30pm

Tickets \$35 per person

Sit with your friends! Reserve a table of 10 for only \$300. Talk to Jean King to reserve a seat at a Zion UCC table!

This event will benefit the Elderly & Disabled Programs of United Church Manor (ucmanor.org) For tickets or to make a donation, call: Jennifer Miller or Karen Zmich at 716-668-5804 Also accepting theme baskets and silent auction donations Thank you for your support!



Lorraine Meinke Memorial Fountain at Asbury Point

If you're visiting Asbury Point (Beechwood) be sure to check out the new Memorial Fountain dedicated to the late Lorraine Meinke.

To read about the dedication, click [here](#).



**63rd Annual Christmas Candlelight
Vespers**



December 2, 2018

4:00pm & 7:00pm

First Trinity Lutheran Church

1570 Niagara Falls Blvd. Tonawanda

Check out Consistory Minutes and Trustee Reports [HERE](#)

Sunday Worship 9am and 10:30am
All are welcome!