



THE VISITOR FROM ZION

NEWSLETTER OF ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN RAHWAY

MAY 2015

RAHWAY, NEW JERSEY

VOLUME 65, ISSUE 5

Pastor Pernini's Message

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

On April 18, 2015, Zion Lutheran Church had its first All God's Children worship service. The service is specifically designed for people with disabilities. All are welcome, but the order of the service, music, and participation are set up in such a way so as to be welcoming and encouraging to people with disabilities. Below is my reflection on why we need a "special" service for people with disabilities at all. That is, why is it that people with disabilities generally feel unwelcome by churches during their "regular" services? Or more broadly, why are people with disabilities generally not part of the ordinary fabric of everyday life?

Jesus said, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous" (Luke 14:12-14). Please meditate on Jesus' statement: **"You will be blessed because they cannot repay you."** Nearly everything we do – be it work, school, vacation, entertainment, food, birth, or death – has all been commodified. From working forty-nine hours a week (the 2014 national average) to a week long vacation (\$1,180 is the national average for a week's vacation for a family of four), all have a price tag associated with them. Birth costs money, as does death. When we encourage our children to consider the education that they will receive in college the salary for the prospective profession is always part of the equation. Parents often join the refrain, "You don't want to end up waiting on tables your whole life, do you?" Education is given a dollar value as well. The thinking goes something like,

'the more education you have, the more profitable you will be.' Or, when you apply for a job, school, or even go on a date, your credentials, experience, and presentability are taken into account. All of these things are your capabilities. Credentials are measures of your past ability to perform a task. Experience is how you have used your gifts, and presentability is your ability to work within the confines of whatever cultural norms are in play.

Our culture ascribes value to people and organizations based upon their capabilities. And, capabilities have been commodified in terms of profitability. So value is ascribed to people proportionate to their capability and profitability. But, how do we evaluate the value of those people who have no education, no job, no capabilities that correlate to profitability, and/or who lack intelligence? As a society we have professionalized (that is, monetized) the care of the aged, disabled, and poverty stricken in the form of assisted living facilities and governmental agencies whose mandates prescribe care either at the expense of a family member through personal finances or through ordinary tax payers' dollars (which, as many of you know, is a hotly contested political issue!). Some would say that charitable and altruistic acts abound and that care is provided through the giving of time and talent to those who cannot care for themselves..

But, though these acts are benevolent, they are just that: acts. They are *single* instances of care that benefit those in need but do not address the transactional nature of such acts and the systemic effects of such thinking (that is, solving problems by writing checks, which is a helpful but short term commitment to care and community). Others would ascribe the cause for relationship in terms of whether or not such an arrangement would be mutually beneficial. *(continues on page 3)*

UPCOMING EVENTS

SPECIAL CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, May 4 at 7:00 PM

With Pastor Scott Schantzenbach, Assistant to the Bishop, NJ Synod ELCA

Join us to discuss congregational vision planning.

All are welcome!

“All God’s Children”

Worship Service for Individuals with Disabilities

Saturday, May 9 at 2:00 PM

This worship service will offer a Gospel message, prayer, music and singing. Light refreshments and time for fellowship will follow the service. Volunteers are needed to greet and assist with the service. Please join us in welcoming our brothers and sisters at this new and exciting worship service!

For more information, contact Jamie Dungey at 908-377-8945.



Congregational Breakfast

Sunday, May 24 at 8:30 AM in Fellowship Hall

All are welcome to join in the meal, and you are encouraged to bring friends!
For more information, or if you'd like to help, contact Katie Finnerty (908-499-4385).

Fellowship Tea Party

Sunday, June 7 at 3:00 PM

Enjoy a variety of exotic and herbal teas, finger sandwiches, pastries, etc.
Be entertained with music, humor, fashion, games, and prizes.

Ladies, flaunt your hats/Easter bonnets! Gentlemen, flaunt your ties!

Volunteers are needed for the following:

- Food preparation and service
- Set-up and Clean-up
- Decoration of the social hall
- Organizing of activities

If you have a tea set at home that you are willing to share/lend,
please call the church office and let Pat know.

Registration is free, but necessary so we know how many people to prepare for.
A sign-up sheet can be found in the narthex.

Suggested donation: \$10

Pastor's Message (continued from page 1)

But, even this type of thinking is founded upon a transaction of benefit between two or more parties who enter into a relationship. In either scenario, the transactional model or the mutually beneficial model, relationships are entered into and sustained for the sake of benefits and ultimately self-interest.

Both the transactional model of relationship formation and the mutually beneficial models leave the aged, disabled, and poor out of the equation because such individuals provide little benefit either socially or monetarily. Thus, the question can be raised, "Where are the aged, disabled, and poor in society and who cares for them?" It is no secret that society often tries to relegate the disabled and poor to restricted areas that are out of sight and the aged are often cordoned off within the confines of whatever facility they are occupying.

What is being called into question in all of this is not the benevolent or loving intent of the person paying for, offering, or providing care. But rather our inability to think about relationships in a way that is different than a transactional or mutually beneficial form of community building. Care is necessary and good, but in distinction from a transactional approach the question raised is what would a Christian form of relationship be constituted by and how might a Christian calculate the value of an individual? And, can such a question be answered outside the confines of community? Why would a Christian befriend someone who offers little or nothing in return for such a relationship?

Jesus said, "You will be blessed because they cannot repay you." Jesus implores his followers to invite those who cannot repay them to celebrations, worship, and public events (refer to the quote above). It is difficult to imagine a more radical and counter-cultural sentiment than to evaluate a person's value based on their apparent valuelessness. Or to think with the "mind of Christ" (Philippians 2:5), those who have little or no value to the world are those whom God values. Put another way, love, invite, and form community with people who have nothing to offer in return. Jesus' idea of community goes beyond expecting nothing in return for benevolence, it means that the Church builds community with those who have nothing to give in return. There is a difference between expecting nothing in return and entering into a relationship with someone who has nothing to give in return. Too often we are influenced by the way the world works. Too easily do we accept the cultural assumption that a mutually beneficial foundation for a relationship is a "Christian" value or that a professionalized system of care is enough. The narratives that we tell ourselves that begin with the

statements, "you get what you deserve," and, "I have worked for what I have," obscure Jesus' call to community which is not based on capability or benefit, but based on God's proclamation that all people are created and loved by God and that love of the other is not based on capabilities. The objection may be raised that you are wasting time in regarding those with nothing to give as privileged recipients of our time and efforts. But, if people are gifts from God, or more aptly put, if all things, including time itself, are gifts from God, then one does not waste time in spending it with those who cannot give anything in return. According to Jesus, spending time with those who have nothing to return the favor is the most appropriate use of our time!

In Jesus' day one of the primary forms of community building and sign of social acceptance was table fellowship. In essence, you dine among equals and the slaves and socially unacceptable serve the food or are excluded. Those who are socially unacceptable, like the woman who anoints Jesus at Bethany (called sinful by a Pharisee in Matthew 26:6-13), tax collectors and sinners (Jesus is accused of spending too much time with them in Matthew 9:10-13), gluttons and drunkards (as opposed to John the Baptist, Jesus often wined and dined with the likes of these; see Luke 7:33-35), the "sinful woman" (Luke 9:36-43), the hungry, thirsty, stranger, naked, sick, and imprisoned (Matthew 25), and the uninvited (Luke 14:24) are those who Jesus dines with and is criticized by those who have power and authority for doing so.

When Jesus asks his followers to invite "the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind" he is asking for more than simply having a "potluck," he is asking his followers to intentionally seek out and build community with those who most people would rather not be in relationship with. It is also important to note that "spiritualizing" this text is prohibited (i.e., not "spiritually poor," but actually poor). Jesus is talking about people who are genuinely poor and without material possessions, people who are stricken with diseases, and people with disabilities like blindness.

As I said above, on Saturday, April 18, Zion Lutheran Church had its first "All God's Children" worship service. This service was crafted with the needs of people with disabilities in mind. After the service I spoke with a woman who brought a van full of people with disabilities to the service. She said that it is a genuine blessing to have a place to bring people with disabilities. She mentioned that the disabled that she cares for rarely go out of their care facility. She said, "No one really wants them to come to their events."

(continues on page 4)

Pastor's Message (continued from page 3)

Presumably that is because most of society values relationships that are mutually beneficial, that is those who have money or time to give back to an organization in return for hosting them, values silence during an event (when a speaker is talking or a movie is playing), values order when it comes to schedules, values uniformity when it comes to communal actions and responses (appropriate times to applaud, laugh, or speak at all), etc. All of these values are both transactional and mutually beneficial in that they require a level of behavioral conformity in order to participate in an activity – conformity to norms is a transaction and perceived as mutually beneficial from the perspective of the “abled” (as opposed to the disabled). Thus, since many disabled folks do not conform to either behavioral or aesthetic norms, they are generally excluded from public events. In an attempt to answer my first question at the beginning of this essay, I believe we need a “special” service in church for the disabled because people generally value those things that are at odds with the capabilities of the disabled. As for the second question, the same is true for society at large. The disabled have the same rights as anyone else, but they have been excluded from most of society’s activities because they have limited capabilities which are routinely devalued in relation to what is culturally considered “normal” or the status quo. So, if I am right, it all comes down to capabilities and how they are valued. Succinctly asked, “is the relationship mutually beneficial?”

But, given the community that Jesus is calling his disciples to create and participate in, would the

above “values” be consonant with Jesus’ vision for the kingdom? Who is God calling us to be in community with? How is God asking us to be in community with those who society does not value? Jesus said, “But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted” (Luke 14:10-11). The last will be first and the first will be last. It would seem that Jesus is calling his disciples to put other people’s needs before their own. Jesus is not calling for equality. He is calling for his disciples to humble themselves for the sake of others, for all.

We have been called not to offer up righteous or even self-righteous works for the sake of God, the supreme other, nor our neighbors, but rather, we have been called to host a holy meal, Communion, and sit at the lowest seat, in terms of prestige and honor, at the table for the sake of our neighbors. We have been called into a community that is the Church. Altruistic acts and charity are good things, but they are not community, they are single acts incapable of sustaining the needs of those whom our society has deemed valueless. The Church, at its best and perhaps rarest, embodies those things that Jesus calls his disciples to do and to be: a community that is willing to forsake its cultural values for the sake of others. A community that lives for the sake of others will never have enough seats at its banquet for all those who would want to be part of the feast!

Grace and peace,
Pastor

Mayor Steinman Recognizes Zion’s Service to our Neighbors

In a letter received in March at the Parsonage, Mayor Steinman stated:

I would like to take a moment to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your collaboration this past winter. I was recently informed of the great deed that you were involved in when you helped to feed the homeless.

As we all know, this winter was a tough one and being homeless makes it unimaginably harder. I firmly believe that good-natured people like yourselves are exactly what this world and our community needs to build a better tomorrow.

Thank you once again for heading the call to help those in need. I commend you for your valor and generosity. In the future, should you ever need anything from me or my office, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Pastor and Kathryn were humbled to receive such recognition on behalf of the congregation of the Body of Christ at Zion. As the months get warmer, let us not forget the great need of our brothers and sisters who will once again become our guests in December through our participation in Operation Warm Heart.

WELCA Notes

Edna Syvertsen, WELCA Secretary



Our monthly meeting was held in the social hall on April 13th. Marge Speidel and Anita Waldron were our hostesses. They had some very pretty spring decorations on our refreshment table.

We continue to collect used eyeglasses. Marge Speidel brings them to her eye doctor's office.

We talked about the Palm Sunday preparations of Easter baskets for shut-ins. We also talked about what fun the Easter egg hunt was, the success of the Easter breakfast, all the good food and what a nice turnout of people there was.

Hostesses for our May meeting are Anita Waldron and Edna Syvertsen.

For our June meeting we will be going to Dominec's for "Lunch Out". All are welcome to join us, contact Anita Waldron or Edna Syvertsen to let us know if you are able to come June 8th at noon to Dominec's restaurant, Avenel Street, Avenel.

Our program was about the ELCA Malaria Campaign based on an article in the March 2015 issue of The Lutheran magazine. The article focused on the ELCA Malaria Campaign which was begun in 2009 and will conclude January 2016. The plan is to raise \$15 million by then and it is expected the goal will be reached. Malaria work will continue through companion churches funded by grants from ELCA World Hunger and ELCA Global Mission. The article concentrated on countries in Africa and how the money is used to help conquer malaria. Some of the very effective ways is to use mosquito netting, drain standing water, get treated immediately when sick and use safe reliable drugs. The ELCA is a partner with the Global Malaria Action Plan to help combat malaria. Malaria needs to be eliminated before a drug resistant malaria parasite evolves. We had a discussion about the history of malaria and what we know about it.

We will have our next meeting May 11th in the social hall. All are welcome.

Can You Sew A Straight Line?

WELCA has received a generous amount of new fabric from the family of Anna Logoda. We plan to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief. The quilt tops may be made from any type of patchwork pattern. The finished quilt should be 60" by 80" top. Money for batting and backing will be provided through a program of Thrivent Financial. These quilts may be made at home or if anyone would like to get together to work at Zion we can make plans to do that.

If you would like to help with this project, please call Edna Syvertsen 732-634-6687. There is not deadline for finishing quilts. It should be a fun project.

Congregation Votes to Keep One Sunday Service at 10:00 AM

On Sunday, April 12, 2015, the congregation of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, in a special meeting, voted by overwhelming majority to have a single service worship schedule on Sundays at 10:00 AM going forward. This new schedule allows the congregation to continue its Adult Education Hour at 9:00 AM as well as continue its Fellowship hour at 11:15 AM.

The Ascension – Left Behind

Maria Blajsa

“Then he led them out as far as Bethany and lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy.” (Luke 24:50-52)

Left behind? The truth is that we have all been left behind by Jesus. The story of the ascension is both a lesson in theology and an encouragement for mission. Since Jesus ascended into heaven, we live in the power of the Holy Spirit that God gives those who have been “left behind” to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ throughout the world.

Sixteenth century artists had a healthy sense of humor. One famous woodcut of the ascension shows awe-struck disciples at the bottom of the page and two dangling feet—their last view of Jesus—hanging down from the top.

Telling the story of Jesus can be playful as well as serious. The account of the ascension reminds us that we have been left behind in a very human world to do Jesus’ work and we need a good sense of humor as well as deep faith to get the job done.

When Jesus ascended into heaven the church became the body of Christ for the world. We need many different kinds of people in the church with many different gifts to continue the ministry of Jesus.



Each congregation is filled with gifted people who can help fill the gap that Jesus left. The ministry of each congregation is shaped by the gifts of the people as well as the needs of the community. We become the church most fully when we discover and use all the gifts that God has sent to us. Each of us is part of the story. We have all been left behind as messengers of God’s grace for the world.

Many Thanks to Our *Operation Warm Heart* Volunteers



Thank you to all who contributed to another successful season of Operation Warm Heart. With everybody’s help and donations, we were able to provide a warm meal and place to sleep for those in need this cold winter. Volunteers helped by cooking, setting up, cleaning up, donating clothing and other items, donating money, providing and/or preparing “to-go” snacks for the next morning, and by giving of their time to be in community with our guests. **We will be having an appreciation Fellowship Hour after service on June 14th for all who contributed in anyway.** If you know someone who volunteered who does not belong to our church then please invite them to attend.

*While we enjoy the warmer weather and coming summer months, many of our brothers and sisters will continue to, like Jesus, have no place to lay their heads (Matt. 8:20). Let us continue to hold them in prayer and consider how we are being called to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry. We give thanks that **Operation Warm Heart will begin again in December**, that we might welcome again our guests to a warm and hospitable place to have a meal and rest for the night.*

ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

MAY 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																		
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3 <i>5th Sunday of Easter</i> 9:00am Adult Education 9:45am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellowship Hour	4 7:00pm Congregation Council 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	5 6:00pm Evangelism 6:30pm Youth & Family 7:30pm Bible Study	6 7:00pm Property	7 10:00am Sewing Group	8 1:00pm 2 nd Friday Cupcakes -2:00pm	9 2:00pm All God's Children worship service 5:00pm Worship																																																																																																		
10 <i>6th Sunday of Easter</i> 9:00am Adult Education 9:45am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellowship Hour	11 12:30pm WELCA 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	12 6:00pm Stewardship 7:30pm Bible Study	13 6:00pm Finance	14 <i>Ascension of our Lord</i>	15	16 5:00pm Worship																																																																																																		
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24 <i>Day of Pentecost</i> 8:30am Breakfast 9:00am Adult Education 9:45am Sunday School 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellowship Hour	25 <i>US Memorial Day</i> CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	26 7:00pm Battenhousen book signing 7:30pm Bible Study	27	28	29	30																																																																																																		
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MAY 2015 SERVER SCHEDULE



DATE	WORSHIP ASSISTANT	COUNTERS
May 2		
May 3	Kathryn Irwin	Herman Renkevans Vi Stebner
May 9	Herman Renkevans	
May 10	Barbara Brown	Barbara Brown Kip Palmer
May 16	Lee Thor	
May 17	Kip Palmer	John Blajsa Maria Blajsa
May 23	Herman Renkevans	
May 24	Kip Palmer	Bob Shackleton Kevin Engstrom
May 30		
May 31	Kathryn Irwin	Bill Hoepfel Peg Hoepfel

May Altar Guild: Carol Luchsinger, Marcia Eversley

If you are interested in participating in worship leadership as a worship assistant, please contact Vi Stebner (732-382-2514).

May Celebrations

Birthdays

- 3 Kevin Engstrom
- 3 Kip Palmer
- 6 Erica Cordes
- 10 Amy Shine
- 11 Carley Lesinski
- 11 Carol Luchsinger
- 12 Jennifer Daisy Meskowsky
- 12 Kathryn Irwin
- 17 Deanna Flanagan
- 18 Joseph Nadzan
- 19 Christina Marie Sawler
- 19 Ingrid Lochner
- 20 DJ Lesinski
- 24 Nancy Fuzy
- 24 Tillie Ruth Irwin-Pernini

Wedding Anniversaries

- 15 Peggy & Herman Renkevans
- 28 Laura & Roger Cottrell

Baptismal Anniversaries

- 1 Kathleen Silva
- 7 Maria Blajsa
- 15 Eileen Miller
- 15 Georgia Hartnett
- 16 Anthony Giarrizzo
- 18 June Rosko
- 20 Norma Huber (jr)
- 22 Charles Zajack
- 23 Gert Shackleton
- 30 Kathryn Irwin

Let us Pray...

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Therese Bera | Ted Meadowcroft | Ryan Roos |
| Erica Cenci | Creigh Reichard | Lee Thor |
| Ursula Lochner | Ellie Ringled | Kathy Ward |
| Carol Meadowcroft | | Charlotte Zygo |
- Abby ----- friend of Marcia Eversley
 Joe Alol ----- friend of Luann Albanese
 Debbie Beer ----- cousin of Cheryl Piccard
 Ginny Bonicker ----- friend of Therese & Yogi Bera
 Andrew Born, USMC ----- nephew of Doug Born
 Robin Brown ----- friend of Lee Thor
 Holly Brown ----- friend of Cheryl Piccard
 Jackson Bunce ----- friend of Pat Ogarek
 Carl Christensen ----- friend of Patrick Sawler
 Richard DeNero ----- friend of Cheryl Piccard
 Helen Deppe ----- sister of Gert Shackleton
 Robert Deppe ----- nephew of Gert Shackleton
 Kristin Engstrom ----- friend of The Irwin-Pernini Family
 Ira Glover ----- friends of Marcia Eversley
 Patricia Grant ----- friend of Cheryl Piccard
 Charles Gritschke ----- nephew of Helen Gehring
 Elanore Hintenach ----- mother of Tommy Hintenach
 Dennis Hoover ----- friend of Gert & Bert Shackleton
 Meg Keller ----- daughter-in-law of Grace Keller
 Marilyn Kelly
 Ed Kertesz ----- cousin of Frank Kertesz
 Susan Kertesz ----- wife of Frank Kertesz
 Frieda Konopi ----- mother-in-law of Carolyn Konopi
 Bernie Long ----- friend of Therese & Yogi Bera
 Amy Martin ----- friend of Zion
 Devon Matthews ----- friend of Cheryl Piccard
 James McCabe ----- cousin of Cheryl Piccard
 Barbara McDarby ----- friend Yogi & Therese Bera
 Ginny Mentzel ----- sister of Natalie Ford
 Dori Miller ----- friend of Therese Bera
 Daniel Nietzold ----- son of Kathy Ward
 Michael Nicols ----- friend of Yogi & Therese Bera
 Monica & John O'Brien ----- friends of Luann Albanese
 George Policastro ----- friend of Therese & Yogi Bera
 Rita Reddington ----- mother of Carolyn Konopi
 Emily Resch ----- friend of the Irwin-Pernini Family
 Maria Ros ----- mother of Fr. Sal Ros
 Marianne Sabol ----- cousin of Therese Bera
 Francis Sawler ----- father of Patrick Sawler
 Helen Spillar ----- friend of Gert & Bert Shackleton
 Susan Trail ----- friend of Therese & Yogi Bera
 Hugh Wallace ----- husband of Nancy Jean Wallace
 Gary Webb ----- brother-in-law of Cheryl Piccard

We pray for members at a distance & unable to join us:

- | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Dot Cole | Alexander Kitsakos | Richard Sillen |
| Margaret Felver | Harry McDowell | Henry Thoden |
| Arlene Hasbrouck | Bill Marbach | John Thompson |
| Grace Keller | Henry Meyer | Dorothy Zehrer |
| | Helen Rokos | |

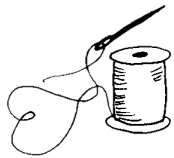
SECOND FRIDAY CUPCAKES

Thanks to all who contributed cupcakes that were delivered to Second Presbyterian Church on Friday, April 10: Cathy Jones, & Marge Speidel. Anyone may contribute. They are much appreciated. Thank you very much also to all the anonymous people who contributed plastic bags or paper products or their prayers! All of this is much appreciated.

The next opportunity to help with this faithful mission is **Friday, May 8th**. Please drop off a batch of 24 cupcakes **between 1:00 and 2:00 PM** at the Parish Office or call the office for a special arrangement.



SEWING GROUP



The sewing group meets on the first and third (sometimes the fifth) Thursday of each month in the Education Building. Our next meeting times are **May 7th and 21st at 10:00 AM**.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

Our next meeting is on **Monday, May 10th at 12:30 PM**.

ALTAR GUILD

The Altar Guild is looking for additional people to serve for one month a year. Call the church office to sign up.



VISITOR NEWS

Visitor submissions should be emailed to the church office (secy@zionlutherannj.net). If you do not have access to the internet you may still submit a hard copy. Please keep us up to date on your events. The deadline is the third Sunday, which is **March 15th**. Remember: if at all possible, please email your news.

MEDICAL SUPPLY CLOSET

If you would like to borrow walkers, crutches, canes, etc., please call the church office.

DONATEABLE ITEMS

CAMPBELLS SOUP LABELS for Navajo Lutheran Mission, Rock Point, AZ



Please save your Campbell's Soup Labels proofs of purchases! The labels are used to purchase vehicles for the Mission and are very valuable, as in the past they have been able to

redeem these points in exchange for four 15-passenger vans (worth 1.5 million labels each!), and two 7-passenger mini vans for employee use. Although Campbell's no longer has the 15-passenger vans, the Mission is still able to purchase smaller vans and educational equipment, such as overhead projectors, computers, and playground equipment.

The Campbell's Soup program will only be accepting the bar code portion from the labels. Instead of saving the labels from Campbell's, Swanson's, V8, Prego, and Franco American products, they now just require that the UPC (bar code) insignia be sent. (Any bar code whose number begins with 51 or 14 or any with the Labels for Education will qualify). If the bar code has dotted lines around or near it, cut on the lines.

For more information, see <http://www.nelm.org/support-the-mission.php>

SODA CAN TABS for children in need



Save the tabs from your soda cans. The saved tabs will be sent to Florida in gallon milk jugs. Each jug will provide \$100 worth of free medical care to children in need.

A box is in the back of our worship space labeled "Can Tabs." For more information call Carley Lesinski at 732-388-9044.

USED EYEGLASSES for those in need



Please bring them to Zion and put them in the box in the back of our worship space.

Notes from Our Brothers and Sisters

I wish to thank the Women of Zion Lutheran Church for always remembering me. Thank you for the lovely Easter lily that Marcia brought to me, and my Easter basket with the cute Easter card from the Zion Sunday School. My card was from "Tillie." Is this the Pastor's baby or can there be two?

I really appreciate everything. Thank you again.

Fondly,
Helen Rokos
 411 Locust Street
 Roselle, NJ 07203-1143

Helen, there is, at this time, only one Tillie at Zion, but there is always room for more!

Book signing for ExtraCare counselor

MAY 19th at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall

"*Socialcide: How America is Loving Itself to Death*" a new book by Leo J. Battenhausen, will be presented by the author. *Socialcide* has a 4.5 star rating on Amazon.com and exposes how technology and narcissism are destroying the moral fiber of America and perhaps the world. Psychotherapist Battenhausen bravely crosses the line between psychology and spirituality to explain his theory and what is responsible for bankrupting morality among us.

Who should attend? Parents, therapists, clergy, or anyone disheartened and/or confused by what is wrong with the world today!

Book signings will commence after author presentation. Coffee and light refreshments will be provided. Free admission. Book purchase, if desired, is \$25.00.

For information call 732-388-1815.

The Bible in 50 Words

God made,
 Adam bit,
 Noah arked,
 Abraham split,
 Joseph ruled,
 Bush talked,
 Moses balked,
 Pharaoh plagued,
 People walked,
 Sea divided,
 Tablets guided,
 Promise landed,
 Saul freaked,
 David peeked,
 Prophets warned,
 Jesus born,
 God walked,
 Love talked,
 Anger crucified,
 Hope died,
 Love rose,
 Spirit flamed,
 Word spread,
 God remained.

This is just a brief overview. To learn more, you have to read the book!

Zion Lutheran Church
215 Elm Avenue
Rahway, NJ 07065

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Weekend Worship Schedule

Saturdays

5:00 PM.....Worship with Holy Communion

Sundays

9:00 AM Adult Education

9:45 AM Sunday School

10:00 AM.....Worship with Holy Communion

11:15 AM..... Fellowship Hour

ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

New Jersey Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

215 Elm Avenue, Rahway, NJ 07065-3220

Phone: 732-388-1815

Fax: 732-574-

2559

Web page: www.zionlutherannj.net

E-Mail: secy@zionlutherannj.net

Saturday Worship at 5:00 PM

Sunday Worship at 10:00 AM

Holy Days as Announced

The Parish Staff

Ministers: The People of Zion Church

The Rev. Carmine Pernini, *Pastor*

Patricia Ogarek, *Parish Secretary*

Dr. Brian F. Dallow, *Director of Music*

Frank Kertesz, *Sexton*

Mr. Kevin Brown, *Congregation President*

**LOVE GOD, LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR, TELL THE
WORLD!**

APRIL 2015