

ZION TIDINGS

June 2026



“Serving Christ through Serving Others”

Summer Fun

Summer is here! The days are getting warmer, the flowers are blooming, ballgames are being played, and many of us are anticipating vacations over the coming months. Zion is offering a plethora of fun things as well. Jessica Dorn, our Christian Ed Director, is planning regular Fun Faithful Fellowship Gatherings for children, families, and all ages to enjoy time together over the summer and learn about God in exciting new ways. Check out the flyers around the church or go to the **Events** tab of our website to find the dates and learn about the fun activities Jessica has planned. We have our ice cream social on June 27 from 2:30-4:30pm in Zion’s parking lot to celebrate our 200th anniversary as a congregation and our annual Zion Night at the Dragons baseball game on July 25.

Even when you are physically away— whether at the ball park or on the road— know that God goes with you. Wherever you go, God is already ahead of you. We are blessed to have excellent livestreaming capabilities here at Zion so that you can watch worship on your own time when you are away. Our website also has a **Spiritual Resources** tab that will provide you with a whole host of resources to help you continue your walk of discipleship over the coming summer months if not the whole year. I invite you to check them out! We have listed everything from podcasts, to informational websites, to publishing houses that provide books and other resources so that we may all continue growing in the faith.

Wherever you find yourself to be this summer, know that our prayers are with you. That God is with you. And that discipleship can happen all day everyday whether you’re at the ballpark, in the car, on a cruise, or simply resting at home. As Christians, life is fundamentally spiritual and provides us with constant opportunities to grow closer to God day by day. I look forward to all the fun things we have planned this summer and how God continues to move through this community.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Summers



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Zion office - office@ziontippcity.org **Prayer requests** - prayers@ziontippcity.org or office@ziontippcity.org

Jessica Dorn, Christian Education director - christianed@ziontippcity.org

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ARTICLES FOR THE July “TIDINGS” is Friday, June 19, 2026

June Birthdays

1	Emily Greer Gray	15	Peggy McCoy	27	Rachel Sebastian Erma Swanson
3	Abby & Annie Olt	17	Bill Jones Misty Strawser Dick Leflar	28	Linda Holt Gavin & Lydia Reedstrom Debbie Weprin
4	Andrea Cooke Freida Schmidt	19	Wanda Lenehan	29	Brent Reedstrom Heather Phillips
6	Pam Sauls	20	Cindy Tayse		
7	Raenell Poynter	23	Melinda Schall		
12	Campbell Ewing	24	Linda Hood		
14	Adam Rizzotte	26	Savannah Schlater		



Upcoming Events

Bible and Brew

Tuesday, June 16th
5:30 – 6:30

Chaffee's Brewhouse
15 E. Second Street, Tipp



Everyone is welcome to join in on these interesting and thought-provoking gatherings. The monthly topics are diverse and relevant.

Chaffee's offers a selection of craft beers, coffees, and a variety of other alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages.



If you don't know how to play – no worries – we will teach you. It's easy & fun!

June 20th

6:00 pm

Fellowship Hall

Pizza will be provided

A freewill offering will be taken to cover the cost

**Please BYO Beverages
and a Snack to Share**

[Sign up in the Fellowship Hallway](#)

Women's Daytime Fellowship

May 24th, 10:00 a.m.

All women are invited.

We always have interesting topics to discuss.

Our purpose is to form friendships, support for each other, and to grow in our Christianity. We meet for an hour.



Saturday, June 27th
2:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Join in the fun at another of our Bicentennial celebrations at Zion.

We will have an Ice Cream Truck, Bouncy Houses, Games, Crafts and Balloon Man etc.

Invite friends and family. This event is open to the public

Zion Night at the Dayton Dragons

Come enjoy an evening at the ballpark, **July 25th at 7:05 p.m.** The cost is \$15. A sign-up sheet is in the fellowship hallway. We need to have our planned attendance to the Dragons early so **please sign up before JUNE 19th.**

If we get 50 people, everyone will receive a \$5 voucher to use at the ballpark. We have 90 tickets available.

An envelope for payment is on the table in the workroom. Please indicate if you paid with cash or check, the check number and amount. Make checks payable to *Zion Lutheran Church*.

Carpooling will be available.



Women of Zion Tea Party

Thirty-three women of Zion enjoyed a wonderful tea party on May 3rd. Three varieties of scones and tea sandwiches were served, as well as two types of tea and several kinds of dessert. Susie Gray provided musical entertainment and lively conversation abounded. Thanks to Sue Rambeau for spearheading the event and preparing all of the food and to Jill Greer, Deb Keppel and Annette Calicoat for their work in making the event a big success. The decision has been made to have this event every other year.



Mission Trip to Back Bay Mississippi

Back Bay Mission was successful! I think I can speak for all that attended that it was enlightening, fulfilling and gave us all a better sense of gratitude and compassion. I believe everyone was also surprised to find how much fun we all had too! We helped with 2 home restorations, with the food pantry, in the day center and with cooking and serving meals. We also were able to explore Biloxi, MS. We thank all of the congregation for supporting the team with prayers, donations and Thrivent grants. I can assure you they all went to much needed use. We loved the experience so much we signed up for a week in 2027! Stay tuned!

~Raenell Poynter



Commissioning the volunteers on May 3rd



Our team along with volunteers from Holy Trinity Lutheran in Muncie, IN



Children & Youth Sunday School

The last day of Sunday School was May 17, 2026.

Sunday School will resume on **September 20**.

If you are interested in teaching or helping in Sunday school for the 2026/2027 school year please reach out to Jessica Dorn.

Messy Games Returns

Attention all youth who have completed 5-12th! Messy Games is BACK on **August 16th**. Grab your friends and join us for an unforgettable afternoon of outrageous games, wild challenges, and head-to-toe chaos. From shaving cream battles to color wars to an epic slip-n-slide finale, this is one event where the mess is the whole point.

We will be meeting with friends from across the Southern Ohio Synod—so come ready to meet new people, make memories, and kick off the school year in the most fun (and messy) way possible.

Contact Jessica with interest **before July 26**

Applications due **August 2** with \$10 refundable* deposit
*refunded after attending

August 16:

2:00 pm Meet at Zion Lutheran Church
2:15 pm Leave for Messy Games
around 6:00 pm Parent pick-up at Zion



Fun Faithful Fellowship (an updated VBS)

Fun Faithful Fellowship is a multigenerational event (unless otherwise noted) open to the community. It is meant to provide some fun with fellowship, because of that we ask that parents stay for the events unless otherwise noted. These activities are meant to be a come when you can leave when you must. And as always – INVITE A FRIEND!

This year there will be a theme: **Creation**. Join us in fellowship as we explore the world that God created for us!

Monday, June 15, 10am-12pm at Zion Lutheran Church – Join us as we have a short Bible lesson on Creation Days 1 and 2. Then we will use limited supplies to see who can build the best protection for a dropped egg. This is meant to be fun, so come ready to break an egg!



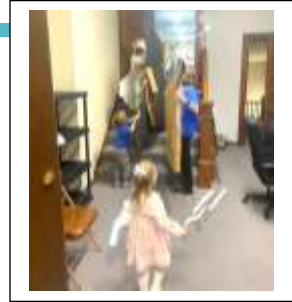
Monday, June 22, 11am Pack a lunch and meet at **Kyle Park** (Meet at the shelters with the restrooms on the left) We will be testing your tastebuds to find out if you can name that drink!

Sunday, June 28, 2:30-4:30pm in the parking lot at **Zion Lutheran Church** for the Ice Cream Social. There will be a lot of fun stuff to do thanks to the 200th Anniversary Committee! Find out what God made on Day 3 of Creation while decorating a pot and planting a seed.



Lots of Helping Hands

On May 3rd Children, Youth, and Adults joined together in cleaning out the new Tech Room (former VBS room). We discussed the importance of helping others including the church and ate donuts before moving the items. I was very proud of how the kids and youth helped with happy hearts. – Jessica Dorn



Sports Closet

The sports closet was able to help another family in May with baseball gear!

Ways you can help:

- Pray: For the kids to have a safe and fun sports season, for the coaches to be good rolemodels and uplift the children, and for parents who need it in all ways.
- Donate: your gently used gear
- Spread the word: Tell others about the sports closet

Property Committee

May 4, 2026

- The committee members trimmed trees and mounted the sign listing the people interred in our Lutheran cemetery.
- The keyboard used for the Women's Tea was moved from the Fellowship Hall back into the choir room.
- The air conditioner was installed in the nursery.
- The monthly work list was completed.
- A spring yard clean-up for the church property was set for Saturday, May 30, 9:00 - noon. A sign-up will be posted in the Fellowship Hallway.

The next meeting will be **Monday, June 6, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.**

Worship & Music Committee

The Worship and Music Committee met on Wednesday, April 22 at 6pm. Attending were: Carla Frame, Susie Gray, Bill Jones, Deb Keppel, Lil Nichols, and Lori Sebastian.

We reviewed upcoming dates and services. The summer liturgy will be from setting 2. We also will likely roll out liturgy setting 11 (from *All Creation Sings*) in the fall, with choir assistance. We are continuing the hymn of the month.

Vocal choir will end May 10, and will return sometime after Labor Day – with a first performance date of 9/20/2026. Bill Jones announced he would be retiring from directing in May, and plans to return as a “regular” choir member. We are grateful for the many years of service Bill provided as choir director and appreciate that he will continue using his singing and guitar talents in the future. The bell choir rang April 12; we hope to ring with 10-12 people in the fall in celebration of the 200th anniversary.

For altar preparation, Carla Frame stated Heather and Ray Phillips will be helping set up Communion for Saturday evening service, and we are appreciative for them volunteering.

The next meeting will be **Wednesday, September 16, 2026 at 6pm.**





How Can I Get Involved?

We are so happy to welcome new people to our congregation. We've been asked about ways to plug in to activities. To provide information about the multitude of opportunities, this an ongoing section in Tidings, which describes a specific ministry area and ways to become involved. This month we are highlighting **COMMUNICATIONS & WELCOMING COMMITTEE.**

The Communication and Welcoming Committee meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 5:00. Pastor meets with this committee to improve our ability to communicate effectively with members and visitors and to be a welcoming presence to all.

The online streaming of Sunday services, our Zion website, the monthly Zion Tidings and weekly bulletins are ways that we communicate and we examine those regularly. We train greeters and stock the Welcome Center that is outside the office. We provide name tags and Zion mailboxes and plan congregational and community events such as BUNCO, attending the Dayton Dragons game, How Can We Pray for You?, and Blessing of the Pets. We provide refreshments for Advent and Lenten services, and have a presence at other Downtown Partnership events.

Several members of the committee also commit to sending out seasonal, birthday and "thinking of you" cards to our shut-ins and others who may need a caring contact.

Anyone interested in learning more about this committee can contact Pastor Summers or Deb Keppel (937-901-4461).



What's New

Our mission quilters have moved to the former Boy Scout room on the second floor. It has a spacious work area and has a lot of storage. Most importantly, the room will have a consistent temperature year-round. The previous work area was too hot in the summer. We look forward to seeing all of their beautiful quilts created for Lutheran World Relief.



Council Meeting Report

May 19, 2026

The meeting opened with a devotion from Isaiah Chapter 6 — “Whom shall I send?” — and the faithful response, “Here I am, Lord. Send me.” This theme of being sent into service flowed naturally into Andrew W.’s presentation on the recent Back Bay Mission Trip. Andrew shared a moving slide show highlighting the work of Zion’s team alongside Holy Trinity Lutheran Church from Muncie, Indiana.

Back Bay Mission welcomed both congregations with gratitude, noting in their public post that the group spent the week *rehabbing two Biloxi homes, mending clothing for guests at the Micah Day Center, stuffing day bags for the Food Pantry, and taking on many other acts of service — “a great week of making good trouble.”* Andrew also spoke about the difficult realities faced by residents in Biloxi, Mississippi. Homelessness remains illegal, and many families continue to struggle nearly two decades after Hurricane Katrina. The Mission Team worked directly with individuals and households needing support to remain safe in their homes, offering compassion, stability, and hands-on help in a community still rebuilding.

Council received an update on the formation of the new Personnel Committee. Chuck Drake has graciously agreed to serve as Chair, offering steady leadership as the committee begins its work. Two members of Zion — Cindy Tayse & Lara Jacobs — have volunteered to serve and bring thoughtful experience to the team. An additional member will be contacted this week to complete the committee roster.

The President also reported on behalf of the Safety and Building Committee that Ray Phillips has coordinated with a Tipp City Safety Resource Officer to conduct a full walkthrough of the facility on May 28th. This assessment will help identify any safety concerns and provide the committee with a clear, prioritized list of items to address in the coming months.

Christian Education Committee, Nate Ewing reported that the Vacation Bible School (VBS) room cleanout was successfully completed on Sunday, May 3, during Sunday School. Thanks were extended to the students and teachers who helped clear out old supplies and equipment. He also shared upcoming Fun Faithful Fellowship events for June:

- Monday, June 15 (10 AM–12 PM): Egg drop activity with a Creation-themed Bible lesson at Zion.
- Monday, June 22 (11 AM): Blind taste test of drinks at the Kyle Park shelters.
- Ice cream social and flowerpot decorating at Zion, with additional activities coordinated by the 200th Anniversary Committee.

The Technology Team shared an update from our internet provider regarding a significant service upgrade available at a very competitive rate. After discussion, Council voted to move forward with the upgrade to improve overall network performance throughout the building. In addition, Council approved the purchase of several new Wi-Fi extenders. These will help strengthen coverage in areas where the signal has been inconsistent and address the connectivity issues that have affected various parts of the facility.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, **June 9th at 7:00 p.m.**

Seeds of Hope Results



Thank you to all who donated to Seeds of Hope, our April Mission of the month! Foster families in the Troy area will be so thankful to receive these items, the gift cards, and cash donations. Serving Christ through serving others!



Successful Shredding Event

On a chilly May 2nd, Zion hosted the free shredding event sponsored by Thrivent. There was a steady stream of cars dropping off papers. Our team of volunteers; Linda Holt, Kim Jones, Chuck Swanson, Beth Ferryman and Chris Frame did a great job of unloading – thank you all. We received a lot of food donations for our local Needy Basket – 4 overflowing bins!

All who dropped off paper were given a ticket for a free hot dog and because the community wide garage sale was the same day, the hot dog vendor had many additional customers. He was not charging for his dogs but happily accepted cash donations, which also went to Needy Basket. The folks at Needy Basket were thrilled to receive over \$760 and a pick-up truck full of food.

Because of the success of the event, we plan to continue having it the Saturday of the community garage sale, which is May 1st next year.



4 Overflowing bins of donated food



Pastor Steve Gellatly passed away on May 7th from brain atrophy. Keep Lori, his family and friends in your prayers. Send condolences to: Lori Gellatly, 530 Keeler Bridge Road, Marietta, SC 29661.

If you wish to send a memorial gift, the family recommends:

Brain Support Network, PO Box 7264, Menlo Park, CA 94026

Prisma Health Hospice of the Foothills – Greenville, 440 Roper Mountain Road,
Suite C, Greenville, SC 29615

Redeemer Church Youth Gathering, 300 Oneal Rd., Greer, SC 29651

Rededication Sunday: A Day of Joy, History & Community

On Sunday May 17th, Zion Lutheran Church gathered in a spirit of joy and gratitude to rededicate the historic cemetery - a project that brought together faith, heritage, and the heart of our congregation.

What began as a simple effort to repair aging signs and determine the names of all laid to rest in the English Lutheran Cemetery became something much deeper: a reminder of the generations who built this church, served this community, and passed down the faith we now carry forward. The morning was filled with smiles, stories, and a sense of shared purpose that could be felt from the sanctuary to the cemetery grounds.

Pastor's blessing and the presence of so many members and friends made the moment shine. Many shared memories of Zion Church over the years, and others expressed gratitude for the care and stewardship for this cemetery and for the work that made this event possible. The congregation's response was overwhelming — warm greetings, tears of appreciation, and a renewed sense of connection to Zion's long and faithful story. It was a celebration not just of names and history restored, but of a community strengthened.

A special thank you goes to everyone who contributed time, skill, leadership, and prayer to bring this project to completion. Your dedication reflects the very best of who we are as a church family.

As we look ahead to the next chapters of Zion's ministry, we carry with us the joy of this day — a reminder that when we honor our past and work together in the present, God's light shines brightly through us.



Thank You

Dear Zion Friends,

We want to thank you for the engraved wind chimes and the fun music store gift card. It was such a surprise to us both!

We love being part of the Zion family and look forward to continuing in the choir. The time I spent as your director will always be some of my fondest memories. Thank you again.

Bill and Kim Jones



Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord

What do you know about the season Pentecost? What do you know about the hymns of Pentecost? After playing organ in the church for decades, I realized that Pentecost is our longest church season, but if we look at the section in the hymnal, there are fewer Pentecost hymns (13 to be exact in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*) than almost every other church season. Christmas and Easter both have over 30 hymns. That does not include all the other “associated hymns”, but it is intriguing that we have fewer Pentecost hymns than most other church seasons in our primary hymnal. For our June hymn of the month, we will look at a Pentecost hymn.

Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord is an older text and tune in our hymnal. The first verse of this hymn was based on the Latin chant – an antiphon used for Vespers of the Vigil of Pentecost in the 1200s. This text was translated to German with the tune we use today in the 1480s. Luther decided to improve this original text and subsequently wrote 2 additional verses. This 3-stanza hymn was published in two hymnals (*Erfurt Enchiridion* and Johann Walter’s *Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn*) in 1524. To the right (courtesy Wikipedia) shows the first of 3 pages of the German hymn in *Erfurt Enchiridion*. It was reprinted in numerous other German /Lutheran hymnals, and by 1545, it was placed in the German section of a prominent hymnal with the instructions “sing at the beginning of all services”.



Theologically, the verses are arranged as follows. Verse 1 focuses on the Holy Spirit as God and Lord. Stanza 2 focuses on the Spirit as delivering Christ and His gifts – specifically referencing holy Light. Verse 3 focuses on the Holy Spirit as holy Fire like the tongues of Pentecost which we read about on the Sunday of Pentecost (Acts 2:1-3). Should you wish to find additional Scripture references about this hymn, reference www.hymnary.org.

As I was researching, I learned several other interesting facts about this hymn. For instance, Luther was quite fond of this hymn as he stated: “The hymn *Come Holy Ghost, God and Lord* was composed by the Holy Ghost himself, both words and music.” This hymn is also the hymn of the day for Pentecost in both the one year and 3-year lectionaries. In addition, many composers have created chorale preludes for this tune including Buxtedhude, Walther, and J.S. Bach. According to Johnathan Swett, “Although *Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord* is not commonly associated with the hymns of Luther referred to as the catechetical chorales, one can easily make a connection between the text of this particular hymn and part of *Luther’s Small Catechism*.” This hymn shows connections with Luther’s explanations of the Third Article of the Apostles’ Creed.

While this hymn tune may not become a personal favorite, it is important from a historical perspective that we recognize texts and tunes like these in our hymnal. I believe that is one of our greatest strengths in the Lutheran church. Like Scripture, our hymns tell stories. Learning about our hymns and how they were created, developed, and still sung in services today – gives me pause. Consider that Luther created this hymn (in German) over 500 years ago! Think of all the saints past and present, who have sung this text to this music. I will close with the last verse of *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* hymn 395 *Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord*.

Come holy Fire, comfort true, grant us the will your work to do
And in your service to abide; let trials turn us not aside.
Lord, by your pow’r prepare each heart and to our weakness strength impart,
that bravely here we may contend, through life and death to you, our Lord, ascend.
Alleluia! Alleluia!



Happy Father's Day!



By the Numbers

These numbers are for four out of five Saturdays and Sundays in May. The last day of Children's/Youth Sunday School was May 17th.

Average Attendance – Saturday: 45 Sunday: 73
Average Sunday School Attendance – Adult: 19 Youth: 3 Kids: 4
Total Giving: \$29,392

Prayer Requests

Pray for those fighting cancer: Prayer request for Sasha Tritle. She had surgery for breast cancer and now is having radiation treatments.

Prayer requests: Ruth White broke her wrist. At this writing, Ruth is at rehab in Otterbein Room 214. She appreciates cards and some visits. Keep **Katie Kessler** in prayer who is healing at home after breaking her leg. Keep Deb and Bob in your prayers as they provide care for Katie. Prayers for healing and wholeness for **Joyce Zimmann** who moved to her new assisted living home, then fell and fractured her femur. She is struggling to rehab and be able to walk again. Cards and prayers are welcome, but please no visitors. **Her address is: 55 Great Hill Rd. #310, Dayton, OH 45414.** Pray for **Hannah and Marissa Kessler** on the death of their newborn baby brother. **Jerry Strawser** is home and receiving nursing care, OT, and PT. **Shirley Rawlins** is at Otterbein. Pray for Sue VonAschen who has sight problems. Carolyn Stocker (mother of Zion's custodian Tina Putman) is in Hospice care. Tina's husband, Ken had a successful kidney surgery. The entire kidney did not have to be removed. Emily Clenney (daughter of Bill and Kim Jones) is having kidney issues and is being referred to a specialist. Prayers are requested for Richard Leflar.

Continue to pray for: Betty Jackson, Chalmer Mader, Debbie Turner, Greg Watkins, Peggy McCoy, Christine Copeland, James Oaks, Brian Watkins, Fred Staie, the Weprin family, Cindy Moore, and Carol Phillips.


Zion's Prayer Chain is sent out weekly through email. It lists prayers needed for those in our community and world. If you have signed up to receive the prayer chain and have not received it recently, please let the office or Linda Holt know. If you have never been a part of the prayer chain and would like to receive it, let us know that, as well.

To request prayers, or take an individual off the prayer chain, email them to prayers@ziontippcity.org. You can also access this through Zion's website www.ziontippcity.org or call the church office at (937) 667-3110.



June 2026

Calendar of Events at Zion

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	<p>Quilts 10:30</p> <p>TOPS 3:30 - 5</p> <p>Property 6p</p>	<p>Mens Bkfst 9:30</p> <p>Quilts 10</p> <p>AA 8-9 pm</p>				
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	<p>Quilts 10:30</p> <p>TOPS 3:30 - 5</p>	<p>Mens Bkfst 9:30</p> <p>Quilts 10</p> <p>AA 8-9 pm</p> <p>Welcome 6p</p> <p>Council 7p</p>				
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
<p>WoZ 7 pm</p>	<p>FFF Egg Drop 10-12 at Zion</p> <p>Quilts 10:30</p> <p>TOPS 3:30 - 5</p>	<p>Mens Bkfst 9:30</p> <p>Quilts 10</p> <p>AA 8-9 pm</p> <p>Bible & Brew 5:30 - Chafee's</p>				<p>Communion Saturday</p> <p>Bunco 6:00</p>
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
 <p>Summer Begins</p>	<p>FFF Lunch 11 Kyle Park</p> <p>Quilts 10:30</p> <p>TOPS 3:30 - 5</p>	<p>Mens Bkfst 9:30</p> <p>Quilts 10</p> <p>AA 8-9 pm</p>	<p>10 Women's Fellowship</p>	<p>Compassion. Friends 7:00</p>		<p>Ice Cream Social 2:30 - 4:30</p>
28	29	30				
<p>Back Bay Debrief 11:00</p> <p>Storypoint Outreach</p>	<p>Quilts 10:30</p> <p>TOPS 3:30 - 5</p>	<p>Mens Bkfst 9:30</p> <p>Quilts 10</p> <p>AA 8-9 pm</p>				