

Prayers for Healing



Last month when Marilou spoke about peace... and our ability to help create it in the world... for some reason JOY kept coming to me. Maybe it was because I was so happy to hear her encouragement, especially now when there seems to be so much stress and conflict all around us. And I do believe when we are joyful there is peace, contentment and love.

Pastor John Piper states Joy is an attribute of the Christian faith. A good feeling in the soul produced by the Holy Spirit that causes us to see the beauty of Christ in our lives and world. And **Harold Attridge from Yale Divinity School:** Joy is like a virtue: Up there with Faith, Hope & Charity!

I believe that Joy is an innate part of our being / a gift from God. So imagine for a moment...consciously thinking about and being joyful. Joy can become our normal 1st reaction, even in times of struggle, conflict or lose. Joy illumines the shadows. Yes, even during trying times of stress, illness or conflict. Even then. A call from a friend at exactly the right time... can bring Joy. Joy can be a work that can becomes a state or way of life.

Joy gives us a spontaneous / great pleasure and feeling of happiness. We may experience an emotional response such as delight, exultation, rejoicing, bliss, elation.

We experience Happiness and Gratitude. Or Contentment Or Connection with something beyond ourselves. **We get glimpses of Joy all the time! How?** When we observe children playing! A spectacular sunset with colors so deep and beautiful it causes us to pause and give thanks for it. Good news long waited for!

Joy is mentioned over **200 times in Scripture!**

Parable of the Lost Son: Imagine Dad's Joy upon his son's return! He goes out to greet him and orders a grand celebration!

Isaiah 52: 9 There are Songs of Joy! When Israel is restored! They sing for Joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion!

Nehemiah: 8:10 The Joy of the Lord will be your strength!

Psalms 43: 4 Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding Joy in times of trouble.

Or Psalm 92:4 For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your work; At the work of your hands I sing for Joy!

Or even today's Psalm 90 verse 14: So shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our lives!

And Joy is different from Happiness. Happiness is usually triggered **externally** and based on other people, or things. It can range from contentment to intense pleasure. Whereas Joy is intrinsic. So I challenge you: Look for the Joy every day!

Play with a Child / Play like a child! Or play with your pet!

Talk a walk in Nature. Enjoy the smells, sounds, breeze on your cheeks!

Listen to your favorite Music. And dance like no one is watching!

Love your partner! Do something unexpected!

Or perhaps a random Act of Kindness!

Walk in the rain! Feel it... Smell it. Jump in a puddle!

Hug someone / Snuggle!

Soak in a Sunset! Feel the Joy & God's Majesty!

Experience all the Joy life has to offer. Let it flow! Share it!

Yours in Christ,
Diane Pierpont

Meet *YOUR* Vestry



Hi everyone, I'm Jane Chick and I am the vestry clerk here at Zion. I am currently in my fifth year serving on the vestry, one year as a member, three years as Senior Warden and now clerk. Working on outreach projects, including Chapel on the Green and Loaves & Fishes, knitting prayer shawls and squares, storytelling, engaging in Christian Formation, serving as Minister of Communion, leading Morning Prayer and occasionally preaching – these are some of the ministries that bring me joy at Zion. And I have recently been serving on the leadership team for the South Central Region of the Episcopal Church of Connecticut.

I've been married to Dave for 35 years and we have four children: Sarah, John, David, and Victoria – all of whom are now married and off on their own. When our children were school aged, Dave and I were both very active in both Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting, having served as leaders to troops and packs, trainers for new leaders, and chairs at district and council levels. Some of my favorite memories come from coaching 6-8 year olds in Bidy Basketball.

I am an alumna of the University of Connecticut, where I played volleyball team and served as captain my last 2 years. After college I worked at Winchester, where I met Dave. I then worked at Seton in Branford for almost 11 years, the last 2 as a Marketing Manager. I was a substitute teacher in East Haven for 2 years then a paraprofessional for 15 years and for the last 2-1/2 years I've had the best job in the world – caring for my grandson Wyatt!

When left to my own devices, I enjoy reading (some might say I have a book addiction), knitting, cooking for lots of people, and taking long, quiet walks on the beach. Those times when all of my children have gathered at our house in East Haven (we've lived there for almost 33 years) and long rides in the car with just Dave and me are the most special to me. And while family time is so much a part of my life, my time at Zion has become special as well. Worshipping with all of you, working together on so many activities, sharing that sacred space – God is truly present. And for that, I give joyful thanks!



CROPWALK

The Clyde Work Memorial Cropwalk was held on **Sunday, October 14**. Zion walked this year and had a slightly larger group than last year. This year we raised \$800 for Cropwalk. The entire walk raised over \$10,000.

Because of Zion's involvement in Cropwalk the Food Pantry of North Branford has been given thousands of dollars from the proceeds each year.

Celebrating the Zion Community!

Come to the "Celebration Sunday" Coffee Hour after the 8 & 10 a.m. services on November 18th. We will give thanks for Zion and to all who walk with us on our faith journey and all who participate in this community through worship, service and giving of their time and talent.

ZION HOLIDAY FAIR

On **Saturday November 17**, Zion will welcome the community to our annual Holiday fair. This is a wonderful time for the parish to work together, have great fun and raise some funds for the church. However, we still have lots of work to do. Whether you are a seasoned fair worker or new to the fair, we really need **YOU**. There are many ways in which you can help out.

We need crafters, are you good at knitting or crocheting, gluing and putting things together, if you have a special craft that you can make to sell at the church, it would be much appreciated.

We are looking for items for our annual White Elephant sale. Things we are looking for are; jewelry, books, Christmas decorations, puzzles, small kitchen appliances as well as dishes, glasses, pans, etc. All items can be stored downstairs in Dave's Cave! No clothes or large items please!

We are looking for people to bake cookies for the cookie walk, please make three dozen or more of each kind. We are all in need of baked goods and other items for our Homemade Goodies table.

Having chaired and worked this fair for many years, I can tell you that it is a lot of fun and a great way to share fellowship at Zion. We greatly appreciate all of the help and hard work that goes into making this a great day for the Church. If you have any questions, ideas or suggestions please let me know either in person or by email; wdwlila@yahoo.com.

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE WANTS YOU!

This year's annual meeting will present nominations for Vestry. This person should have a desire to help and a perspective about our parish. We need people with varied experiences who can attend a monthly meeting and participate in some activities of the parish.

Our Vestry members receive a training session with our veterans and we are blessed with a faithful group that takes risks to participate in God's mission through Zion. We hope you will speak to us about any potential members. Please don't forget to consider *yourself!* Contact Senior Warden, Lisa Latham, or Junior Warden, Diane Iglesias.



ADVENT DIAPER DRIVE: Throughout the month of December, Zion will be hosting a diaper drive to benefit the New Haven Diaper Bank. These diapers are provided free to poor and low income families throughout the greater New Haven area.

Starting on Advent 1, you will be able to bring in the diapers and put them in the crib, set up in the church hall. All sizes are needed but most especially, diapers size newborn – 4, pull-ups size 2T, 3T, 4T, adult diapers and Depends all sizes.

Please consider bringing in a package or two, a week and encourage your family and friends to support this worthwhile cause. Monetary donations will also be accepted.

If you have any questions, you can email me at wdwlila@yahoo.com. Thank you, Lisa Latham

KITCHEN RENOVATION



We are well on our way to the finish line on the kitchen project. Appliances and additional counters were delivered and will be hooked up over the next week. Plumbing and electrical connections will occur next week and the new ceiling installed. You will be able to see all of the new kitchen items this Sunday. Once all items are installed Al will be coordinating the return of our kitchen supplies. Our kitchen has been brought up to date and in full compliance with health department requirements. We will also hold training sessions for folks who tend to use the kitchen on using each new appliance.

Diane Iglesias
Jr Warden

MUSIC NEWS

It is always amazing how quickly the fall season flies by. The choir has been rehearsing for a very special musical that will be presented on Advent 4, Sunday December 23 at the 10 am service. This choir cantata is called "God Came Near" which focuses on the miracle and majesty of Christmas. The piece includes songs and narrations that frame the Christmas story. There is a pageant portion that will include children. Please let me know if you have a child who would like to participate.

The choir is also preparing anthems and carols for the traditional Christmas Eve service which will begin at 4:30 December 24.

As always, new members are always welcome in the choir.

Looking forward to a worshipful and peaceful Advent and Christmas season.

Blessings,

Ralene Goff

ralenegoff@gmail.com

Chapel on the Green: We are making and serving a hot chili lunch and bagged sandwich suppers for Chapel on the Green on December 2nd.

Please remember to bring in the bagged sandwich suppers you have made at home, or the ingredients you pledged so they can be assembled. Other servers most welcome, meet us at the Green at 1:30 or carpool from Zion at 1pm.

CONTACT INFORMATION

The Zion contact list needs updates as more and more people have dropped their land-lines. Please update your contact information with parish administrator, Debbie Anderson at zion_office@att.net

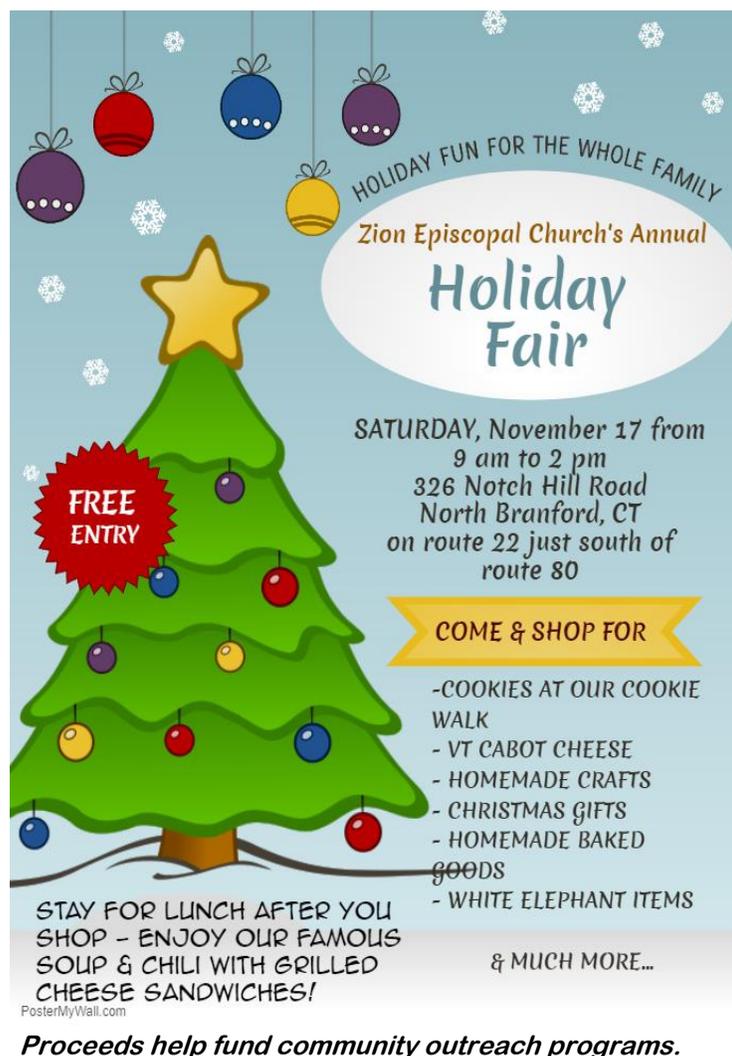
Please see parish administrator, Debbie Anderson for more information and parishioner rate if you are looking to use the hall for a personal event. Hall use forms are available on the bulletin board in hall or on the church website.

transforming  generosity

Annual Appeal Drive

This year's pledge drive will conclude on Sunday, November 18. Please prayerful complete your pledge card and return it on that Sunday. We will put our pledge cards on the altar.

Thank you for your generosity which enables Zion to gather for worship, serve God in the community and region, and offer our space for ministries to children and those in recovery. Your pledge for 2019 will determine how much we can do.



HOLIDAY FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Zion Episcopal Church's Annual
Holiday Fair

SATURDAY, November 17 from
9 am to 2 pm
326 Notch Hill Road
North Branford, CT
on route 22 just south of
route 80

FREE ENTRY

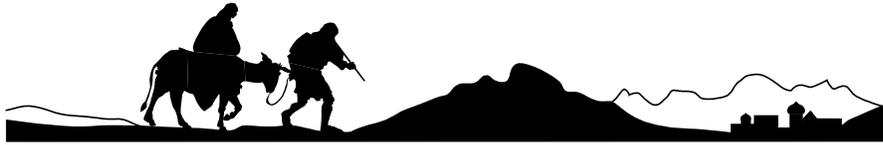
COME & SHOP FOR

- COOKIES AT OUR COOKIE WALK
- VT CABOT CHEESE
- HOMEMADE CRAFTS
- CHRISTMAS GIFTS
- HOMEMADE BAKED GOODS
- WHITE ELEPHANT ITEMS

STAY FOR LUNCH AFTER YOU SHOP - ENJOY OUR FAMOUS SOUP & CHILI WITH GRILLED CHEESE SANDWICHES!

& MUCH MORE...

Proceeds help fund community outreach programs.



CALENDAR FOR CHRISTMASTIDE AND EPIPHANY

Sunday, December 23: ADVENT IV

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Christmas Cantata 'God Came Near'

Decorating the church after the 10 a.m. service, followed by refreshments

Monday, December 24: The Eve of the Nativity

4:30 p.m. Carols and Anthems with Choir

5:00 p.m. Festal Holy Eucharist

Child care available downstairs during service.

Tuesday, December 25: The Nativity of our Lord: Christmas Day

9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Music and Carols

Sunday, December 30: The First Sunday after Christmas

9:00 a.m. Lessons and Carols with Holy Eucharist

Sunday, January 6: Epiphany

8:00 & 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist



Christmas Flower Memorials

Those wishing to make donations for Christmas poinsettia altar flowers in memory of loved ones may use the offering envelopes found in the pews. Printing legibly, please list the names exactly as you wish them to appear in the special insert of the Christmas bulletin. Make out your checks to Zion, earmarked "*Christmas Flowers*"



Hello Everyone,

Fall is officially upon us! As the temperature continues to drop please remember to dress your child for the colder weather. We go outside everyday unless it's raining. Also, remember to update their change of clothes in their backpack.

Order your cookies, coffee cakes and pies from Nursery on Notch Hill for Thanksgiving! Order forms are due by **Wednesday, November 7th**. Orders will be delivered and ready for pickup on **Thursday, November 15th**. If you are available during the day and would like to help organize the orders, please let me know. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

This month Ms. Donna's class will be busy preparing for their Thanksgiving Feast! Our Feast is scheduled for **Monday, November 19th** at noon. Family and friends are welcome to attend.

We would like to thank the North Branford Fire Department and volunteer Firemen Mike Standish, Matthews Dad, for taking part in our fire safety month. The children enjoyed the visit from the fire truck and learning about staying safe.

We will be starting our Tots Together program this month. If you or someone you know has a two or three-year-old that would like to join us on Thursday mornings please contact us. Our first session starts on November 29th.

We would like to wish you and your families a Happy Thanksgiving! It is a great time to reflect on all we have to be thankful for. We are thankful for the opportunity to spend our day with your children.

Thank you,

Ms. Sue, Ms. Donna, Ms. Betsy, Ms. Rita & Ms. Debbie

November Snack Helpers

Week 1 (11/5) Surprenant and Joyce

Week 2 (11/12) Miller and Ryalls

Week 3 (11/19) No helpers Thanksgiving week

Week 4 (11/26) Standish and Saulino

Thank you to all our snack helpers! The State of CT requires us to write down the snack you will be contributing one week prior. The calendar for November is posted and is located on the bulletin board next to our daily sign in sheet. Thank you for your help!

Dates to Remember

- **School Picture Day**

Monday, 11/5 Ms. Donna's Class

Thursday, 11/6 Ms. Betsy's class

Remember to bring your signed permission slip

- Fundraiser Order Forms due by **Wednesday, November 7th** Delivery date is **Thursday, November 15th**

- **Movie night - TBA**

- Thanksgiving Feast for the MWF classes
Monday, **November 19th at 12 noon**

- **CLOSED November 22nd & 23rd for Thanksgiving!**



The State of CT requires all children in a state licensed preschool to receive their flu shot. Please remember to get your child's flu shot by December 31st.

Classroom News

During this month, our classes will be talking about being thankful!

The children will be working on Thanksgiving activities to help them appreciate all the wonderful things in their lives.

Ms. Betsy's themes will be, fall leaves and the meaning of Thanksgiving.

Ms. Donna's s class will be working on fall activities and practicing for the Thanksgiving Feast.

Food for Thought

**There is always something to be thankful for...
Happy Thanksgiving!**

November/December 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<i>All Saints' Sunday</i> HE 8& 10 a.m.	<i>Yoga</i>			<i>Yoga</i> <i>AA</i>	<i>AA</i>	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
<i>Pentecost 25</i> HE 8& 10 a.m. <i>AA</i>	<i>Yoga</i>			<i>Yoga</i> <i>AA</i>	<i>Fair set up</i> <i>AA</i>	<i>Holiday Fair</i>
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
<i>Pentecost 26</i> HE 8& 10 a.m. <i>AA</i>	<i>Yoga</i>			<i>Thanksgiving</i> <i>AA</i>	<i>AA</i>	
25	26	27	28	29	30	DECEMBER 1
<i>Last Sunday after Pentecost</i> MP 8& 10 a.m. <i>AA</i>	<i>Yoga</i>			<i>Yoga</i> <i>AA</i>	<i>AA</i>	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<i>Advent 1</i> HE 8& 10 a.m. <i>Zion bosting</i> <i>Chapel on the Green</i> <i>AA</i>	<i>Yoga</i>			<i>Yoga</i> <i>AA</i>	<i>AA</i>	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<i>Advent 2</i> HE 8& 10 a.m. <i>AA</i>	<i>Yoga</i>			<i>Yoga</i> <i>AA</i>	<i>AA</i>	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
<i>Advent 3</i> HE 8& 10 a.m. <i>AA</i>	<i>Yoga</i>			<i>Yoga</i> <i>AA</i>	<i>AA</i>	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
<i>Advent 4</i> HE 8& 10 a.m. <i>AA</i>	<i>Christmas Eve</i> 4:30 p.m. Choir anthems & carols HE 5 p.m.	<i>Christmas Day</i> HE 9 a.m.				
30	31					
<i>First Sunday after Christmas</i> 9 a.m. Lessons and carols <i>AA</i>						

ZION EPISCOPAL CHURCH

www.zionepiscopalchurch.org

Vicar: The Rev. Lucy LaRocca

email: zionvicar@att.net

Parish Office: 203-488-7395

Administrator: Debbie Anderson: zion_office@att.net

Music Director: Ralene Goff: ralenegoff@gmail.com

Officers

Senior Warden: Lisa Latham

Junior Warden: Diane Iglesias

Treasurer: Phil Bujalski - zionsreas@att.net

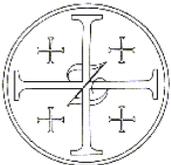
Clerk: Jane Chick

Pledge Clerk: Jennifer Elles-Jones

Vestry: Janet Ainsworth, Carl Ford, Ann Harriman, Rita Smith, Tracy Sadlon & Ann McGloin

**Holiday Fair (See page 3.)*

**Advent Community Outreach (see page 3.)*



Zion Episcopal Church
326 Notch Hill Road
North Branford, CT 06471
zionepiscopalchurch.org
