

CROSSROADS
SEPT/OCT 2017

"I am bringing you good news of great joy for all people." - Luke 2:10

Dear Friends,

September is a time for new beginnings for all, not just for those who are going back to school. Each of us can be life-long learners and continue to grow in our faith, in our love of God and our neighbor, and in our development as human beings who are part of God's beloved community. With the cooler days of fall, there is an excitement in the air that is almost palatable. Something calls us from our laid-back summer rest into new activities and renewed enthusiasm for activities, classes, and worship. Could it be the stirring of the Holy Spirit?

At Zion, we are gearing up for our new program year. Next week, September 3rd, we resume our two service schedule on Sunday mornings, at 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. is more contemplative, 10:00 a.m. we have music, child care. Christian Formation for children and youth resumes September 10th. Our Godly Play and Middle School programs have added new curriculum and new storytellers.

Our nursery school, Nursery on Notch Hill, will welcome 20+, 3 and 4-year-olds to school in our newly renovated lower level. Fresh paint, new flooring, and new cabinets and bookcases now grace all our classrooms, childcare room and downstairs kitchen.

While perusing the following pages of our newsletter, I invite you to consider what new thing God might have in mind for you this fall. Consider trying on a new ministry or spiritual practice. Do you want to learn more about your faith tradition? Consider attending a quiet day, class, or book study. Do you want to be a part of healing the brokenness in the world? Participate in a conversation about racism. Help serve at our community dinner in October. Make lunches for Chapel on the Green. Attend a Healing Prayer service. Lend a hand at the North Branford Food Pantry. Do you like to sing? Consider joining the choir.

Blessings on this new season of learning and growing!

Yours in Christ, Lucy+

Loaves & Fishes

As you begin to change your clothes over from summer wear to winter, Loaves and Fishes will be doing the same. They will soon be looking for winter wear, especially coats, gloves, hats, gloves, sweaters, etc. Any fall/winter items you may no longer need can be donated and left by the closet in the parish hall. **Jim Sochocki** graciously makes runs to Loaves and Fishes and drops off what has been collected. Thanks so much, Jim!

Our next dates to volunteer will be Saturday **September 30th**.

Chapel on the Green: Zion will be hosting Chapel on the Green on **Sunday, October 29th** from 1:30 to 3:30 at Trinity Episcopal Church in New Haven. We will be providing bag lunches for between 150-200 people. All are welcome to participate as you are able. Signup sheets will be going up in the parish hall soon, so keep an eye for them! If you have any questions or for more information, please contact Carl Ford or Jane Chick.

Walk to Stamp Out Hunger: Zion will be participating in the CROP Hunger Walk on Sunday, **October 1st** at 1:00 p.m. beginning at the Guilford Green. 25% of all monies raised will go to the Food Pantry of North Branford. Please consider being a walker – your actions help give attention to the plight of our hungry neighbors. Forms and more information will be out over the next few weeks. Thank you!

Hats, Scarves, Gloves/Mittens for All: This year Zion will be hosting Chapel on the Green on **December 17th**, a week before Christmas. Many of our neighbors attending may not have been given a present for Christmas in a long time. We will be collecting hats, scarves and gloves and/or mittens from now until December. When you begin shopping for the Fall/Winter seasons, please consider picking up an item or two. If you knit or crochet, consider making some hats or scarves – there is a pink bin in the parish hall with all kinds of yarn and patterns; there is also a box with knitting needles and crochet hooks if you need them. Please look for the bin marked HATS FOR ALL and place your donations there. Thanks so much for participating – your efforts will make a difference in the lives of our struggling neighbors.

Knit, Crochet, Converse: Come join us to knit, crochet, or just talk on the 1st Wednesday (**Sep 6/Oct 4**) and/or the 3rd Tuesday (**Sep 19/Oct 17**) of every month, from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. You don't need to know how to knit, we can teach you if you would like to learn. You can help make hats, scarves, prayer shawls, or begin a project that is dear to you. If you aren't sure knitting is for you, then come for the conversation. All are invited and welcome. For more information, please contact Jane Chick at 203-988-4401 or ctycampboss@yahoo.com.

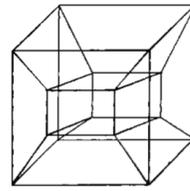


Blessing of the Backpacks

Thank you to all who donated school supplies and backpacks. We blessed all students and teachers in the

congregation on August 27th and blessed the baskets overflowing with donations which were given to town social worker Luisa Breen for distribution in North Branford schools.

From the Book of Common Prayer:
“O Eternal God, bless all schools, colleges, and universities, that they may be lively centers for sound learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of wisdom; and grant that those who teach and those who learn may find you to be the source of all truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”



One Community/One Read: It's hard to believe that summer is almost past! Hopefully everyone has had a chance to relax and get some pleasure reading, including *A Wrinkle in Time*. If you haven't already done so, consider creating

your own cover for the book and posting it in the parish hall. We will be having a breakfast in October between the services so we can chat and share our thoughts about this classic novel. You can use the following questions or come up with your own:

1. What Biblical passages are quoted or come to mind?
2. What hymns or praise music to you 'hear' as you read?
3. Who makes a family? Can you belong to more than one family?
4. How does the use of darkness and light tell the story of good and evil?
5. How does love affect the outcome of the story?

I look forward to hearing everyone's thoughts and interpretations! Stay tuned!

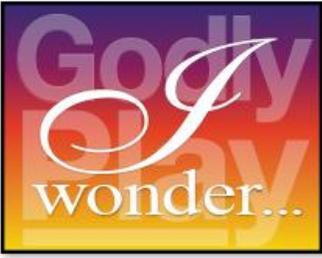
ECW Quiet day: Living Faith

September 9th from 8:30-12:00 noon at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 20 Catlin St., Meriden, CT with the Rev. Deacon Ellen Adams. Please make your reservations by phone or email to Valzie Peterkin 203-877-4701 Valziep@gmail.com. This Quiet Day is free and open to all women in the Episcopal Church in CT.

Volunteer Orientation & Training at The Connecticut Hospice

CT Hospice in Branford is sponsoring volunteer orientation and training this fall for those looking to serve others in the community. You can serve both homecare and inpatient hospice patients and families as a friendly visitor, provide pastoral care or bereavement services, help in the arts, massage therapy, pet therapy, as hairdresser or barber or providing transportation. For more information contact Joan Cullen at 203-315-7510 or jcullen@hospice.com





Christian Formation

For Children and Youth

We are so excited to offer Christian Formation for Children and Youth in the newly renovated lower level of Zion! This year, children in grades K-9 will

have Christian Formation three Sundays a month, from 9:45 to approximately 10:30, when they will join their families and the rest of the community for Milestone Prayers and Holy Eucharist. Grades K-4 will continue to engage with the stories of our faith through Godly Play, a Montessori-like program which encourages wondering and working with the stories of our faith. Grades 5-8 will be using Living the Good News, a lectionary based program that engages youth with the intersection of the weekly readings and their daily lives. **Jen Jones, Jane Chick, Becky Passante and Denise George** will be our Godly Play storytellers. Jane will meet with youth in grades 5-9 twice per month, Rev. Lucy will meet with this group once per month at 11:15.

We have added many new stories to our Godly Play library. More storytellers would be ideal. An additional leader/chaperone for middle school is still needed. Remember that all who volunteer to work with children at Zion must have been a member of this community for one year and undergo a criminal background check. Training is provided.

For Adults: This fall, adults have many opportunities to engage in Christian Formation outside of the weekly readings & sermon with our on-going outreach activities and study and discussion offerings. Coming up: Tuesdays, October 17th and 24th @ 7 pm-

Exploring our Episcopal Faith Tuesdays, Nov. 28th, Dec. 5th and Dec. 12th @ 4 pm

Afternoon Tea and Book Discussion: What do the women of the Bible have to say to us in 2017? Join us on November 28th, December 5th and December 12th from 4 - 5:30 pm. to discuss the book, Bible Women: all their words and why they matter, named best Bible study book of 2015 by Illumination Book Awards, written by Episcopal priest Lindsay Hardin Freeman. Please let Rev. Lucy know you will be joining this three week study!

Harvest Dinner: In his recent talk, our Presiding Bishop talked about the title of a book by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The book was entitled, Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community? We are called, the bishop said, to work together for the sake of

God's Beloved Community, to be the Beloved Community.

Towards this end, on **Saturday, October 28th, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.** we will host a Community Harvest Dinner in Zion's parish hall. We will welcome anyone in our community who wishes to attend. Please come and invite your friends and neighbors to share a meal and a time of fellowship. Please let Parish Life Coordinator, Lisa Latham, know if you can help with set-up, clean-up or in preparing the meal of chili and cornbread and salad.

Conversation about Racism: On Sunday, August 27th we listened to a post-Charlottesville talk given by our Presiding Bishop Michael Curry. He referred to steps that we could take to face the sin of racism. One step that we can take is to have a conversation about Race and Racism. On Wednesday evening, September 27th, you are invited to participate in a conversation in our parish hall at 7:00 pm. Refreshments will be served.

Social Media Sunday, September 24.: Get ready to pick up your digital devices for **Social Media Sunday (#SMS17)**

This event started in 2013 at Trinity Episcopal Church in Tariffville as a way for parishioners to use devices to share their life of faith with the digital world. It has since grown to include Christians and people of faith everywhere.

Making Zion's presence known on social media September 24th can be as easy as 'checking in' on Facebook. Consider 'going live' as we prepare lunches for Chapel on the Green that day. Tweet Bible verses, prayers or sermon bits that captured your attention. Other ideas most welcome!!

Zion Community Picnic: On **Sunday September 17,** at 12 noon we will be hosting a picnic to honor the North Branford first responders and celebrate the fellowship of our parish and community.

Hot dogs, hamburgers and drinks will be provided. We are looking for people to sign up to bring salads and desserts. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the hall.

We are hoping to provide a few yard games for all ages as well.

Please join us for a fun day. If you have any questions or are interested in setting up a game, please contact me by phone, 203-871-9199 or email, wdwlila@yahoo.com Thank you, Lisa Latham



Music News

Congratulations to the 21 people who participated in this summer's family musical "Happily Forever After". Cast members included children and adults from Zion Episcopal, First Church of Christ Congregational Old Saybrook, St. John's Episcopal Niantic, St. James New Haven, and Grace Episcopal Old Saybrook. After a fabulous performance, we all enjoyed a wonderful reception organized by Lisa Latham. Michele and Rick Kinrade graciously agreed to record the performance. Thank you to everyone who made this special worship offering so very successful.

The choir will officially resume singing on **Sunday, September 3** with practice at 9 am. There will be a music ministry meeting immediately after church on September 3 for anyone interested in participating in music at Zion throughout the upcoming year. We will be gathering to discuss children and adult choirs, handbells, instrumental groups, and plans for music through Christmas. New participants are always welcome.

"Wheezer Scrooge and the 3 Angels" is the name of the Christmas Pageant musical this year. This is an original play that I am very excited to bring to Zion. There will be an information and registration meeting after church on **Sunday, October 22**. Children and adults are welcome to participate-there is room for everyone. There are both speaking and non-speaking roles along with traditional nativity characters. Short rehearsals for speaking roles will begin November 5 after church. Please email me with any questions.

We have been so blessed to see wonderful growth in the music ministry at Zion, and I am very excited for this year.

Many blessings,
Ralene Goff
ralenegoff@gmail.com



Buildings and Grounds Update

The B&G group has much to be proud of so far this year. We have maximized the use of the grant from the Wallace Foote Trust to catch up to some very needed maintenance projects. Despite the ongoing efforts of our core group of volunteers the Zion facilities still require maintenance that extended beyond our basic budget. With the Foote Trust funds, and budgeted dollars we have cared for the following needs:

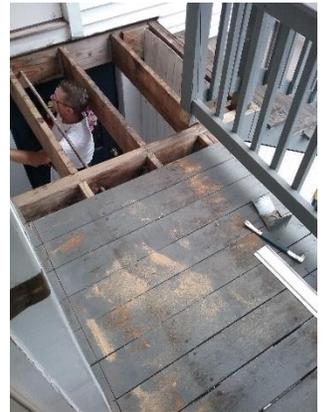
- We replaced the water heater, which was over twenty years old and also added a control valve to allow us to separately set the hot water temperature for the kitchen downstairs and upstairs.
- Removed two trees that were creating a hazard near the Memorial Garden and playground, along with trimming the tree overhang along the parking lot, which allows for the full use of the parking spaces.
- The rug was removed from the downstairs covering the church school space, the office, kitchen and the Nursery school. The floor was replaced with a new vinyl flooring which is waterproof and childproof. It will help minimize the noise and provides added cushioning. A new wall was built to replace a wall covering and the downstairs area was also painted with the help of Zion volunteers and volunteers from Kohl's.
- Five of the church stained glass windows were restored and cleaned. These windows are over 120 years old and although some of them have had partial restoration, many of them will need to have additional work in order to maintain them. The outside frame needs to be scraped and painted, which we hope to accomplish this fall.
- The backstairs and deck were replaced with new wood and ADA handrail. The stairs will be painted this fall.
- The parking lot was repaired to fill in various cracks.
- Also in the works is a replacement playhouse in the playground. We have a Boy Scout who will be redesigning and building it this fall as his Eagle Scout Project.
- As with the typical spring/summer maintenance we also have continued to maintain the Memorial Garden in beautiful condition and repaired various items throughout the facility.

Many, many thanks to **Al Maiorino** for doing a great job in coordinating the downstairs project, **Joe Anderson** for moving the telephone downstairs, fixing the outside light and all else he has done. Thanks to **David LaRocca** for replacing the downstairs wall, removing the toilet downstairs and managing the Memorial Garden, the driveway repair and all else that he does. Thanks to **Matt Williams** for fixing the pew. Thanks to **Nancy Fryer** and **Rev. Lucy LaRocca** for painting. Thanks to Debbie Anderson for painting downstairs and making sure that the unnoticed things get done. Thanks to **Dave Weaver** and **Carl Ford** for helping to move the heavy items out of the kitchen downstairs and then moving them back in after the floors were in. Thanks to **Jim Sochocki** for screwing cabinets and shelves back into the walls so they will stay put, and helping get NONH back into shape for the new school year.

And, thanks to *anyone else* I have missed who have helped in anyway. Your efforts truly continue to make Zion an awesome place.

Diane Iglesias
Jr. Warden





Please consider God's Creation before printing this email.

CROSSROADS, Zion Episcopal Church, North Branford, CT

September/October 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					SEPTEMBER 1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
RETURN TO REGULAR HOURS BEGIN HE 8 & 10 a.m.	Office Closed		Knitting ministry			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Pentecost 5 HE 8 & 10 a.m. B&G meeting 10 a.m. Vestry meeting 11:30 a.m.		7 p.m. Healing Prayer at Zion.				
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Pentecost 6 HE 8 & 10 a.m. 12 noon Community picnic		Knitting ministry				
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Pentecost 7 HE 8 & 10 a.m. Chapel on the Green		7 p.m. Healing Prayer at Trinity Branford				Loaves & Fishes 7:15 a.m meet at Zion
OCTOBER 1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Pentecost 8 HE 8 & 10 a.m. with baptisms Crop Walk 1 p.m.			Knitting ministry			
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Pentecost 9 HE 8 & 10 a.m. Vestry meeting 11:30 a.m.		7 p.m. Healing Prayer at Zion				Possible Prayer Hike Details TBD
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Pentecost 10 HE 8 & 10 a.m.		Knitting ministry				
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Pentecost 11 HE 8 & 10 a.m.		7 p.m. Healing Prayer at Trinity Branford				7-8 Harvest Dinner
29	30	31				
Pentecost 12 HE 8 & 10 a.m. Chapel on the Green						

AA: Thursday, Friday, & Sunday Nights (6:30 - 9:00 p.m.) Yoga: Monday (6:00 - 7:45 p.m.), Thursday (5:00 - 6:30 p.m.)
SUBMISSION DUE DATE FOR THE NOVEMBER CROSSROADS IS MONDAY, OCTOBER 23

ZION EPISCOPAL CHURCH

www.zionepiscopalchurch.org

Vicar: The Rev. Lucy LaRocca

email: zionvicar@att.net

Administrator: Debbie Anderson: zion_office@att.net

Music Director: Ralene Goff: ralenegoff@gmail.com

Parish Intern: Thomas Hogsten

Parish Office: 203-488-7395

Officers

Senior Warden: Jane Chick

Junior Warden: Diane Iglesias

Treasurer: Phil Bujalski - zionsreas@att.net

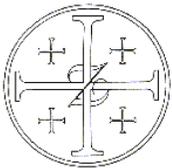
Clerk: OPEN

Pledge Clerk: Jennifer Elles-Jones

Vestry: Janet Ainsworth, Carl Ford, Nancy Fryer, Ann Harriman, David Hultgren, Lisa Latham & Dale Sochocki

* *Music News (See page 4.)*

* *Buildings and Grounds updates (See pages 5 & 6.)*



Zion Episcopal Church

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North Branford, CT 06471

<http://www.zionepiscopalchurch.org/>