



# Heart Beat Newsletter

## Zion United Methodist Church

*In the heart of Whitehouse*



**June, 2021**

### **Pastor Carol's Comments**

Roller coasters: you either love 'em or you hate 'em. Personally, I'm in the "hate 'em" camp, unless it's one designed for little children. This past 14+ months have certainly been a roller coaster ride in many ways, as we've experienced highs, lows, and unexpected curves, sometimes on a day-to-day basis.

Now it seems like the ride is levelling out. Here at Zion, nearly everyone has been vaccinated. This means we can safely worship in the sanctuary once again. As we take this symbolic step toward "normal," I hope we won't simply return to the way things used to be. We've learned a lot about how to adjust, sometimes by doing new things, and sometimes by doing old things in a new way. I hope we won't just unthinkingly go back to "the way we've always done it" (whatever "it" is), but instead will examine our plans to see if changes can make us more effective disciples.

My ordination banner hangs in my office. It includes part of Isaiah 43:19: "Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" As we "return to normal," let's not forget that God is always doing new things, and we should be ready to go along for the ride.

#### 4<sup>th</sup> of July at Hope UMC

We have been invited to be Hope UMC's guests at a Fourth of July worship service, followed by a cook-out. Our church council agreed that we should all attend this "Faith in America" service together in place of worshiping at Zion on that morning. The worship service and concert, offered by Hope's chancel choir, begins at 11:00, with the cook-out afterwards. Bring your own chair, blanket, canopy if you want one, and your own non-alcoholic beverages for the hot dog lunch. The service and lunch will be held indoors if the weather doesn't cooperate.

#### VBS Reunites Three Churches

This year, Zion, Community of Christ, and Hope will again unite to provide Vacation Bible School for the children of our community. It will be held at Hope 8/2-5, from 9 a.m. to noon. There will be a variety of ways we can help out, so mark out some time now to support this community effort.

### **News Around Zion**

#### Freedom School Is Back!

After being held virtually last year due to the pandemic, Freedom School is back in session. We will be lending a hand on three Wednesdays from 11:30-1. Our dates are 6/23, 7/7, and 7/21. The school is sponsored by the Maumee Watershed District and is held at Monroe Street UMC in Toledo.

This year we will be doing two different two jobs. One is reading with a child and sitting with him or her at lunch. The other is helping to set up lunch, sit at the lunch tables, and then some light clean-up (wiping tables, etc.). We will need 3 people on 6/23, and 4 each day in July. A simple information form must be completed by each volunteer prior to our service dates.

Freedom School is a nation-wide program that helps to break the "cradle to prison pipeline" for at-risk children by helping them to be academically successful. This year, our program will offer 40 students Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) in their afternoon enrichment activities, and there will be more outdoor activities. Guests will include readers from around the world through Zoom technology. As always, the heart of Freedom School will be reading instruction.

Studies show that last year, across the country, 77% of Freedom School scholars avoided summer learning loss, 98% of parents saw increased confidence in their children, and 97% of parents were interested in becoming involved in their communities with their children.

#### Cherry Fest

Cherry Fest is coming up fast. We will again be offering our Diaper Changing Station on Friday and Saturday, 6/11-12, from 11 – 8 each day. When we last had it in 2019, families were lined up to use our clean, quiet spot to care for their babies. We'll need volunteers for set-up, tear-down, and staffing the booth. Set-up will be at 10 a.m. on Friday. We'd like to have at least two people per shift to staff the station. Sign up with Ron for a shift or two.



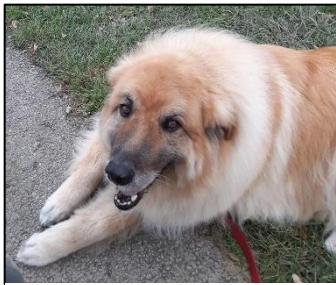
News Around Zion (continued)

June Sermon Series: "Obedience School"

By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments (1 John 5:2-3).

Our four-legged friends benefit from obedience training in many ways. So do Christians. Throughout June, we'll discover how the commands that dogs learn in obedience school can help us grow in our discipleship.

Here are some of the canine members of the Zion family . . .



Leo Jones



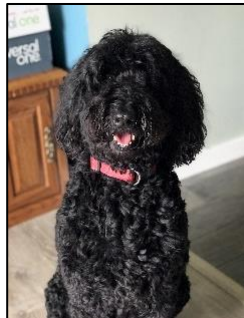
Annie Myers



Dezil & Roxanne Ackermann



Suki Morse



Duchess Jones



Corky Vollmar



Mimi Stultz



Beasley Morse



Annie Reed



Rocco Dotson

Church Information

Pastor Carol Williams-Young
10926 Maumee St. P.O. Box 2457
Whitehouse OH 43571
(419) 877-5820

Worship at 10:25 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:00 a.m.

Zionwhitehouseumc@gmail.com
pastorcarol@bex.net

Find us on Facebook: whitehousezionumc

Website:
http://www.zionumcwhitehouse.org

Upcoming Events

- Sundays, 10:25 a.m. - Worship in the Sanctuary
Tues., 6/15, 4-6 p.m. - Food Pantry
Friday - Saturday, 6/11-12 - Cherry Fest
Sunday, 6/20 - Happy Father's Day
Wed., 6/23, 11:30 to 1 - Freedom School
Sun, 7/4, 11:00 a.m. - Meet at Hope UMC for Worship and Cookout (no service at Zion)
Tues., 7/6, 4-6 p.m. - Food Pantry
Wed., 7/7 and 7/21, 11:30 to 1 - Freedom School