

CLEVELAND SOUTH-WEST ZONE OCTOBER – NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

SEVENTH EDITION



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Thank you Janice Cisco and Greetings from Your Newly Appointed Zone President!

Hope this newsletter reaches you with joy and blessings.

I would like to announce that Janice Cisco has resigned after 15 years of serving as Zone President for the Cleveland South-West Zone.

Janice was recently diagnosed with cancer and is starting her radiation treatments in October. She is doing well as she has no side effects and is so thankful for the prayers and volunteers who take her to her treatments.

Thank you Janice for serving the Lord with gladness! Your love for God is an inspiration and your enthusiasm and passion for LWML is motivating.

I am pleased to announce that I will be your new President for the CSW zone. My former position as Vice President is available and I would encourage you to prayerfully consider an opportunity to serve within the LCMS community. If you are interested or would like to learn more about LWML, please contact me at juliegresko@gmail.com.

Please feel free to reach out to anyone of your CSWZ representatives!

Zone President-Julie Gresko juliegresko@gmail.com

Zone Vice President- **Open**

Zone Secretary-Jane Hoffman pjhoff49@gmail.com

Zone Treasurer-Susie Mercer

Zone Counselor-Pastor Paul Hoffman pjhoff49@gmail.com



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What a day for a rally!

If you were unable to attend, here is what you missed... Secretary, Jane Hoffman, who conducted the rally, started with a game mixer.



Mary Kay from Trinity was our guest speaker. She was a delegate at the national convention and talk about her first time experience at the convention.

Mary Kay spoke to the group stating how she enjoyed participating at the convention and was particularly moved by the video mission project about how our mites are being used for transporting handicap people to church services to hear God's news of salvation in Jesus.

Our pastoral counselor, Pastor Paul Hoffman led the group in a Biblical exercise workout. His Bible study encouraged all of us to use our faith in the work of God's kingdom based on Romans 12.

Following the Bible study, the ladies enjoyed a delicious salad luncheon potluck. No two salads were alike! Churches represented were Christ Lutheran, Bethlehem, St. Mark, Bethany, St. James, Immanuel and Trinity.

Next event will be a Prayer Service which will be announced in the next newsletter.



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St. Paul in Westlake is having their 7th annual **UNDERWEAR DRIVE**. This drive goes until Thanksgiving. Watch for those Back to School Sales and pick up a couple packages. **Questions call Eunice Langner: 440-315-0973**

Gethsemane in Lakewood The third Thursday of every month Gethsemane offers a community meal to residents of Lakewood.

Trinity in Cleveland: Join Trinity members and Ohio City Incorporated for a fun Fall Family Fun night on October 29th at 4:30pm. – 7:30pm. Bring a treat bag and a costume and travel Ohio City for treats, fun, and family fun!

Please help your local food pantry



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Our pastor spotlight for this edition is Pastor Green. He was born in Painesville, Ohio, and attended Zion Lutheran in Painesville for 35 years. Pastor Green is married to Kathy, and they have three children and seven grandchildren. Between high school graduation and enrolling at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana, Pastor Green

drove a wide variety of trucks and earned an associate degree in accounting. During his third year of seminary, he served as a vicar in Carroll, Iowa. Pastor Green graduated and then in 1996 received the call to Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Parma.

What made you decide to become a pastor? Looking back, now I can see that for many years I went through the motions of going to church but had no trust in Jesus for eternal life. Then, through a new pastor at Zion, Rev. James Zinkowich, I started doing a daily Bible devotion and memorizing key Bible verses. As the months went by, the Holy Spirit finally opened my eyes to see my helplessness to save myself and re-enabled me to trust in Jesus for eternal life. As time went by, I became more grateful for God's gift of salvation and open to whatever His will might be for my life – which finally led to seminary and the pastoral ministry.

Do you have a favorite Bible verse and why is it your favorite? I have many favorites, but here is one: ^{NAS} **Ezra 7:10** "For Ezra had set his heart to study the law of the LORD, and to practice it, and to teach His statutes and ordinances in Israel." Note the four underlined words and their order; they are all critical for teaching. First, we go to the Bible with our heart open to hear God's word; second, we study God's word; third, we put God's word into practice in our lives; and, fourth, we are finally ready to teach God's word to others.

Tell us a little bit about your experience in car racing. I drag raced a little at Thompson Raceway Park after I turned 16; then, a couple years later, I got involved racing each Saturday for about five years, raced a 67 Chevelle and a 68 Camaro, and raced at some other tracks in the area. I enjoyed it but stopped when our first child was born.

How were you introduced to LWML? I learned some things about LWML at my home congregation (LWML Sunday), at the seminary, and when I arrived at Bethlehem. Then, through Kathy getting involved and my Bible teaching at some events held at Bethlehem, I learned much more.

Who was your mentor growing up? If you mean a spiritual mentor, I didn't have one. I went to church, Sunday School, and Bible Class, and had people who cared about me, but, honestly, I was somewhat uninterested and uncomfortable asking questions. I continued that way for years until God used Pastor Zinkowich to make a huge difference in my life, as noted above.

Do you have any fun plans with the family this Fall? We are hoping to enjoy the fall weather, do more walking in our various metro parks, have some get-togethers with family, friends, and church members.

If you had a choice as to which sporting event you wanted to attend, which would it be? I enjoy drag racing, football, and baseball.