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# Zion's Messenger

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February 2016

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## FROM THE PASTOR...

Dear Zion Friends,

**The season of Lent is upon us already, a bit earlier than last year.** It is my favorite liturgical season, I have to admit. Our focus on the life and death of Christ, with all of its' passion and drama, makes it easy to tell the "old, old story of Jesus and his love."

In our 21<sup>st</sup> century world, where Christianity is under fire from the culture and being misunderstood around the globe, it is important for the Zion's faith community to stay focused on the details of the Jesus' life. **By modeling our lives after Jesus**, we still find meaning, purpose and direction for ourselves as individuals and for our community of believers.

**As Christians have long done**, we will gather more frequently for prayer, study, fellowship and worship during the 6 weeks of Lent. These opportunities for growth in faith are there to encourage all people to come into relationship with God, a relationship that is skillfully brokered and radically changed because of what Jesus choses to do with his own life.

**This God of ours wants to be in relationship with you.** As faithful people, we need to be in conversation with each other and with God. Encourage those whom you know, to participate in

the meaningful worship life, prayer life, study life, and servant life that help us all to stay attentive to God's Salvation story.

**Come and check out** our Lenten Chapel in the Gold Room. We will worship there on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

**Encourage those** who are seeking to be baptized, to receive the Holy Supper, to come into God's Presence in worship.

**During Lent**, our Sunday School will be collecting school supplies for schools faraway. Our kids will be learning how pencils, paper and supplied are craved by children all over the world, something, we take for granted.

**Do a devotion daily.** Take time to pray. Stop and think. Meditate on how our Christian life is and should be different from the world around us. Focus on God and others not on self. Try and put "sin" aside. Work on making yourself a more God-like person.

**Know in your heart that you can't do it without God's love.** You can't save yourself or this world. Only God can do that. Look at how God does it!

You will find more details about all of our Lenten opportunities in the pages of this newsletter.

**As we begin this journey** to the garbage dump called "Calvary", may the refuse of our lives be

buried for we know that there is more, much more, to live for.

**Come and see how to get a room in** "The Heavenly Hotel on Sunday, February 7, at both services as our youth help us reflect on what it takes.

**I hope to see you in church. I am.**



**P.S. PLEASE Come to OUR CONTINUING ANNUAL MEETING on SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14 immediately after the 10:30 a.m. worship service SO THAT WE CAN FINISH the business leftover from January 17 that was left undone. A 2016 operating budget needs to be adopted. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE NAVE.**

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- **Sunday School Lenten project list of needs**
- **Learn how to Make a contribution on- line on our website!**
- **Monday, Feb. 1 – Volunteer Celebration Meal details**
- **Winter Weather info**
- **April Mission trip details**
- **Kayakers needed on Sat. May 7 on the river**

Calling all committee members, musicians, Opportunity House servers, Family Promise helpers, quilt-knotters, WELCA participants, Sunday School staff, Bible School staff, Garden volunteers, Grassmowers, Prayer Shawl makers, staff members. If you give talent and talent OUTSIDE OF THE WORSHIP HOUR then for all you do, this BBQ is for you!

Come and Celebrate  
Our 2015 Congregational Accomplishments!

Enjoy a Fellowship Meal with All Those Who Give their Time  
to make us and keep us ZionStrong!

# Volunteer Celebration!

Monday, February 1, 2016

from 6 - 7:30 p.m.

PLEASE  
COME!

## Zion's Lutheran Fellowship Hall

Muddy's BBQ and Much More!  
An Inspiring Speaker - No Church "Business"

**Please SIGN UP/RSVP to the event by Sun., January 24**

Our Goal is to get 75 volunteers to...

Spouses/significant others...


Zion...

**WE NEED PEOPLE TO ATTEND THIS EVENT! THERE WAS A 50 PERSON MINIMUM!**  
**PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE TO RSVP SO THAT WE CAN MAKE THE MINIMUM!**

This event is sponsored by the Executive Committee of Zion Lutheran Church. This event is in recognition of all the good work that is accomplished by so many people all year long!



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# ANNUAL MEETING

**TO BE CONTINUED  
ON  
SUNDAY, February 14  
after the  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
The 2016 budget must  
still be adopted!**

We are looking for Ringgold Band program sponsors for our Church Music Sunday performance on Sun. May 15 at 2 PM One major donor @ \$250 (choose 2 songs for them to play) and 3 smaller donors at \$100 each, & 5 donors @ \$50 would reduce our stress! Programs will be printed so advertisement is possible. See PB.

**The Property Committee is asking for volunteers to help with snow shoveling this winter.**

A sign up sheet for volunteers is posted on the bulletin board. If you are interested in helping, please sign the sheet for the date or dates that you are willing to cover this responsibility. If you have any questions about the responsibilities of a shoveling volunteer, contact Michael Puglia or any Property Committee member.

## **OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2016**

The Pastor will be delivering all of the envelopes that have not been picked up

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**Have you filled out your Time & Talent Sheet for 2016??** If not, please pick one up on the Narthex table, fill it out and place it in the offering basket. Try something new this year!  
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**Did you know....**

**That Zion's Lutheran Church members save/give these items to help others:**

- + **Canned Goods** for the Hamburg Middle School Pantry
- + **Old eyeglasses**
- + **Coupons for the Troops**
- + **Redner's Save-a-Tapes**
- + **Used Printer cartridges** (these are mailed in and the church receives credit for its office supplies)
- + **Campbell Soup Labels** benefits Perry Elementary School

You may bring these items to church and place most of them on the Narthex table.

## **ONLINE GIVING NOW AVAILABLE AT ZIONS LUTHERAN CHURCH!**

**Our church has now partnered with VANCO payment solutions to provide all members and visitors the ability to donate online.** There is now a link on the church website at [www.zionslutheran.org](http://www.zionslutheran.org). Once on the Church homepage, there is a link labeled "DONATE". This will bring you to another page that you can click a button called "online giving". This will take you to the Vanco site and will allow you to set up a profile. It is as easy as signing up for online bill pay with a bank. **You can set up recurring donations and never have to use an envelope again!** Joe Leone gave a presentation on how to enroll in VANCO and donate online at the congregational meeting on January 17th. Joe is willing to show anyone how to set up their on-line giving. With our new Comcast Wi-Fi at church, it is easy on a laptop computer. **Please consider setting up a profile and donate to sustain the church and regularly support our congregation's mission.**

## RESPONSIBILITIES FOR FEBRUARY

### ACOLYTES

Feb. 7 – 8:00 am. Carielle Geist  
7 – 10:30 am. Luke Mengel  
14 – 8:00 am. Paul Engle  
14 – 10:30 am. Alicia Gough  
21 – 8:00 am. Veronica Heckman  
21 – 10:30 am. Alyssa Blandford  
28 – 8:00 am. Hailey Denatala  
28 – 10:30 am. Jacob Fegley

### MAIL TEAM #4

February 25 – 7:00 pm. Gary and Ruth Wilhelm, Mitch Shestok

### LECTORS

Feb. 7 – 8:00 am. Henry Seidel  
7 – 10:30 am. Eileen Puglia  
14 – 8 am. Joe Leone  
14 – 10:30 am. Faye Heckman  
21 – 8 am. Venus Fioravanti  
21 - 10:30 a.m. Mark Price  
28 - 8 a.m. Sandra Moroney  
28 – 10:30 am. Mark Dreibelbis

### ALTAR GULD

February – Pat Potts and Ruth Wilhelm

### OPPORTUNITY HOUSE MEAL

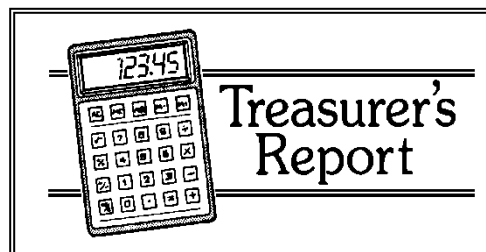
Leave church at 5:30 pm. on Feb. 19, 2016

### GREETERS

Feb. 7 – 8:00 am. Brian and Sandra Moroney  
7 – 10:30 am. Nelson and Ruth Ann Eyer  
14 – 10:30 am. Paul and Linda Weidner  
21 – 10:30 am. David and Mary Mengle  
28 – 10:30 am. Mark and Janine Dreibelbis

### 10:30 a.m. NURSERY ATTENDANTS

Feb. 7 – Faye Heckman and Alyssa Blandford  
14 – Carissa Miller and Paul Engle  
21 – Lori Palubinski and Autumn Eyer  
28 – Eileen Puglia and Alicia Gough



**Thank you to everyone who contributed generously** in December, 2015 helping Zion's Lutheran to end the year with a greatly reduced deficit! More than \$37,000 was contributed by members and friends in December!

**For tax preparation purposes**, and because of the 100 year record blizzard on Jan.22-3, the 2015 Final Statements of Giving were mailed out on Monday, January 25, 2016.

**Please consider doing your giving on-line using the church's website.** The procedure is very user friendly. Giving in this way saves paper, saves staff time posting your gifts, and helps our congregation enter the electronic age.

Each Year, Zion's Lutheran earns some significant income from saving Redner's Tapes. If you would like to participate in this program, it's easy, just get a save-a-tape card at the store, give it to the cashier and put your register tapes in the basket in the narthex. Remember, all tapes must say Save-A-Tape on them to be eligible for this program.

### SAVE-A-TAPE

Zions collects Redner's receipts in order to receive 1% of the recorded total purchases turned in. However, you **MUST** present a "Pump Perks" card (even if you don't use it for gas) in order for Zion's to receive the 1% back from Redner's. Receipts without this are ineligible! If you don't have a "Pump Perks" card, stop at Customer Service to get one. Please get a card and use it when you are at the check-out register. Bring in your entire Save-A-Tape receipt and put it in the basket in the nave. Keep those receipts coming!!!! Thanks!

**Lent begins on February 10 – Ash Wednesday**



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## WINTER WEATHER AND WORSHIP

**We can't predict, but we can prepare.** Weekday bad weather cancellation of programs and rehearsals and meetings will be tied to **what the Hamburg Area School District is doing for the day.** If HASD cancels or lets out early, then all church programming is suspended for the day. This eliminates the need for multiple phone calls, hopefully everyone understands.

### Pay attention to the Facebook Page!

**Likely, there would be a modified Sunday morning schedule.** No 8 a.m. worship. No Sunday School. This gives time for the parking lots to be cleared if necessary. 10:30 a.m. worship will likely always be held unless "snow-megedon" hits! And it did on January 22 – 23, a 100 year record blizzard amount! We had no worship at all that day! The parking lot was unplowed until Monday afternoon!

For large groups or for Sunday School and Worship Events, **cancellations will be posted on Channel 69's website: [www.wfmz.com](http://www.wfmz.com).** (click on School Closing then Church, Worship) and it should be on the scrolling bar on the bottom of the TV screen.

**Information will also be on our Facebook page:** Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Perry Township. If you're not sure about a scheduled event, simply call the Church at 610-562-3112.

**Be safe. Do what you think you can safely do.** Remember that our congregational members are scattered and live in many places!

## Congregation Council Corner submitted by Bill Deibler

The Congregation Council meeting was held January 12, 2016. All current members were present, weathering an evening snow squall that made diving a little difficult.

Council would like to applaud all of our members and attendees who responded to our "ZionStrong" effort to reduce our 2015 financial deficit. Our December giving totaled \$37,741.80 which reduced our 2015 deficit by almost \$20,000. **Thank you to everyone who made this possible. We are truly a blessed church family.**

Brian Moroney updated us on the church's water situation. After much effort and investigation as to what our obligation is in regard to state regulations, our water system is now in total compliance with all standards, both now and moving forward. Our church water is safe for drinking. Thank you to Brian and our Property Committee for their many hours of work to make sure we are meeting these requirements.

**A Big Thank You to Joe Leone** for his 4 year analysis of Zion's Giving and Spending. His CPA skills are a valuable asset to our organization. His analysis and input give us a better understanding of where we've been and where we are going.

Council addressed the recent resignation of our long-time secretary, Elaine Schroeder, and our plan for moving forward. The Personnel Committee is in the process of reviewing the Secretary Job Description and are proceeding with a plan to find a replacement. We thank Elaine for her many years of service to Zion's. We will miss her services.

Zion's Congregation Council is always changing its make-up. We want to thank those members who are leaving Council for their self-less dedication of time and talents. We eagerly welcome all of the new members who agree to serve in the coming years.

Wishing everyone a happy, healthy, prosperous, and blessed new year. May God Bless.

**Two possible Mission Trips for Zion's members (ages 16 and above) to consider (with neighboring congregations). See PB for more details about either opportunity:**

**Sun. Apr. 24- Fri. Apr. 29** – Hurricane Sandy Recovery work in Monmouth County, NJ with some members from Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity in Leesport. Each participant pays \$50. Lodging is at Camp Evans. Visit [mcltrg.org](http://mcltrg.org) for more info. March 15 deadline to register. PB has volunteer host site packet for you to look at. Next meeting of volunteers is Thurs. Mar. 10 at 7:30 p.m. at HT-Leesport.

**Sun. Oct. 30- Sat. Nov. 5** – To Honduras through Living Waters International to install a well in a village and do hygiene classes, **traveling with members of Trinity Lutheran, Wernersville.** \$250 per person. Excellent staff guide the whole experience. The designated village does prep work in advance. Visit [livingwaters.org](http://livingwaters.org) for more info. Deadline is Feb. 15. Some group members went to El Salvador in 2014. Myerstown-Elco Rotary Club endorses the trip. Air flight is likely Philly-Houston-Honduras. There would be monthly meetings to prepare for this trip. Passport/Travel shots are required. Visit [www.water.cc](http://www.water.cc) for more info. See PB now if you are interested.

Pastor Bruce is open to considering attending both of these Mission trips **if a member of Zion's Lutheran is interested in participating.**

**At the church, there are lots of 2016 Calendars for Free** courtesy of Adam's and Bright Pharmacy of Hamburg.

## ZION'S YOUTH NEWS

**Sunday, January 31** – 4-6 pm. Youth Group meetings/skit rehearsal/supper

**Sunday, February 7** – SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY “The Heavenly Hotel” is to be performed at both worship services. There are still parts available and help is needed. See PB

**Don't forget that the Catechism Retreat Bear Creek is March 11-13!** All youth in Grades 6-12 have been invited to participate. You may still register but do so now.

**Saturday, May 7** – **Kayakers are needed on the river!** See PB

**A June 12-17 Pocono Camping Trip** is being planned. Several adults are needed to participate. See PB.

## *Garden News*

**Planning ahead...**

We are looking forward to our first planting in March or April. **In order to continue the Garden's success, we continue to be in need of volunteers.** We continue to need weekly volunteers to help in the Garden. But we are also in need of committee volunteers, as we start new terms for our Garden committee. **See David Ketner, Lori Palubinski, or Eileen Puglia** if you are interested in serving on the Garden Committee this year or email us at [communitygarden@zionslutheran.org](mailto:communitygarden@zionslutheran.org).

## **Zion's Book Group Book Choices for open discussion on the third Thursdays at 7 p.m.**

**Thurs. Feb. 18** – “Orange is the New Black”  
by

**Thurs. Mar. 17** “One Light Still Shines” by  
Marie Monville

**Thurs. Apr. 21** – “The Invention of Wings” by  
Sue Monk Kidd

Thanks to **Lori Palubinski** for helping make these choices at the group meeting in January.



**Zion's Women**  
**Zion's Sunday School**  
**Lenten Project Supply List**

Please donate as many of these items as you can, between now and Easter Sunday:

**70 sheet inch spiral notebook** (8 by 10.5)

**Rulers** with 30 centimeters/12 inches

**Pencil sharpeners** – Plastic, single

**School scissors** blunt  
tips or safety scissors with embedded steel blades)

**5 unsharpened #2 pencils** with erasers secured together with a rubber band.

**5 black or blue ballpoint pens** (no gel ink) secured with a rubber band.

**Boxes of 16 or 24 crayons**

**2.5 inch erasers**

**Calling all those who sew:** There is a pattern for a 14 by 17 drawstring bag with shoulder straps for each kit. Please get your copy in the Church Office and start sewing!

Visit [lwr.org/schoolkits](http://lwr.org/schoolkits) to find out where the quilts go

**Donations of \$1.40 per kit** to cover shipping are also being collected. These kits will be delivered to the New Windsor warehouse of Church World Service by Zion's members in the late spring, when more quilts are ready!

**Zion's Women** will take \$\$ donations for this project in order to purchase items not donated to help make as many kits as possible. Mark your offering envelopes "Lenten School Kits".

Our goal is a minimum of 50 kits. 100 would be great. 200 would be superb!

The kits will be assembled on Thursday, April 21 at 6 p.m. here at church by our children and youth.

## Women of Zion's News

The Board (Wanda, Kim, Tina, Bettie, Virginia, and Susie) met on Wednesday, January 20 to re-organize. The group had not met since the November Bazaar.

Regular monthly meetings will now be held on the **THIRD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH at 6 p.m.** at church. **All women in the church are invited to come on Thursday, February 18 to hear a report from our member Carissa Miller** who went on a Mission Trip to Honduras in January.

The Women's Group will be supporting the Sunday School's Lenten effort to collect school supplies for Lutheran World Relief. (See the detailed list of items elsewhere) On Thursday, April 21, the kits will be assembled by the children and youth.

**A Zion's Relay for Life team is being formed to participate in the May 20-21** annual event at Schuylkill Valley High School. Youth who raise \$100 will be able to participate/sleep over that Friday night. Tuesday, Feb. 16 is the planning meeting at the SV Cafeteria at 7:30 p.m. See Kim O. if you want to be a Zion's walker or want more information. All ages may participate.

**On Saturday, May 14, the Men of Zion's will be offering a Mother-Daughter-Friend Brunch from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. Pastor Bruce will be mobilizing the men to carry out this event. Watch for more details. Interested men may speak with him about helping plan and prepare the meal/program.

**Questions may be directed to Bettie Hirko, President of Zion's Women.**

# So That We Can Help Direct Others Who are in Need in Our Community

## Food is Distributed at These Places

### Hamburg Middle School

711 Windsor St., Hamburg PA

**4th Tuesday 6:00-7:00PM**

Hamburg School District

Bernville 19506 - Hamburg 19526  
Lenhartsville 19534 - Mohrsville 19541  
Shartlesville 19554 - Strausstown 19559

### Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity

102 Apple St., Leesport PA

**3rd Saturday 9:00-11:00 AM**

Schuylkill Valley School District

Bernville 19506 - Blandon 19510 - Centerport 19516  
Dauberville 19517 - Greenfield Manor 19601  
Laureldale 19605 - Leesport 19533 - Mohrsville 19541

### Seventh Day Adventist Church

22 Willow Rd., Hamburg PA

**3rd Sunday 12:00-2:00 PM (FOOD)**

Mon & Tues 1:00-6:00 PM (Clothes/Housewares)

Auburn 17922 - Bernville 19506 - Centerport 19516  
Dauberville 19517 - Hamburg 19526 - Kempton 19529  
Leesport 19533 - Lenhartsville 19534  
Mohrsville 19541 - Orwigsburg 17961  
Port Clinton 19549 - Shartlesville 19554  
Shoemakersville 19555 - Strausstown 19559

### Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church

8410 Lancaster Ave, Bethel PA

**3rd Friday 4:00-6:00 PM**

Bethel 19507 - Mt. Aetna 19544 - Rehresburg 19550

### St. Thomas Church

536 North Main Street, Bernville PA

**3rd Thursday 5:00-6:00 PM**

Bernville 19506

### Zion's Blue Mtn UCC Church

6573 Old Rt. 22, Strausstown PA

**3rd Thursday 6:30-7:30 PM**

All zipcodes in Berks County

### Farm Family Appreciation Celebration

Saturday, March 19, 2016

## Did you know that...

+ The Hamburg Salvation Army is investigating opening a Clothing Thrift Shop in the former Yarns-R-Us location? Volunteers and donations would be needed.

+ The Keystone Military Families program on Noble Street in Shoemakersville is moving to a temporary location. Find them on Facebook in order to help them out or to refer a veteran who needs some help.

# So That We Can Help Direct Others Who are in Need in Our Community



# February 2016

Like us on Facebook at "Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Perry Township"

www.zionslutheran.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>31 January</b> Worship 8am Prayer Shawl 9:15am Sunday School 9:15a Holy Com. 10:30am	1 All Vol. Celeb 6pm Cub Scouts 6:30pm Boy Scouts 7:30pm	2 NBC Garden 6:30pm AA 7pm Al-Anon 7pm Chris. Ed. 7pm	3	4 Altar Guild 6:30pm Bells 7pm Brass 8pm	5 Pastor's Day off	6 Worship 5pm AA 7pm
7 Holy Com. 8am Sunday School 9:15a Holy Com. 10:30am Souper Bowl 12pm	8 Cub Scouts 6:30pm Boy Scouts 7:30pm	9 Quilt Knotting 9am AA 7pm Al-Anon 7pm Cong. Council 7pm	10 <b>Ash Wednesday Worship</b> 10:30 a.m. Study at Zion 11 a.m. Worship at Zion 11:30 a.m. Soup/Bread 7 p.m. Worship at St. Paul-Smoke	11 Senior Adults 10:30a Ministerium Lenten Service 11:30am Bells 7pm	12 Zion's Cemetery Board at Zion's WC 9am Pastor's Day off	13 Worship 5pm AA 7pm
14 Worship 8am Sunday School 9:15a Holy Com. 10:30am	15 Cub Scouts 6:30pm Boy Scouts 7:30pm	16 AA 7pm Al-Anon 7pm	17 <b>NL Deadline</b> <b>Lenten Wednesday</b> 10:30 a.m. Study 11 a.m. Worship 11:30 Soup/Bread 5:45 Soup/Bread 6:15 Study 7 p.m. Worship 7:45 Choir	18 Bells 7pm Property 7pm Brass 8pm Book Group 7PM	19 Opportunity House Meal 5:30pm Pastor's Day off	20 Worship 5pm AA 7pm
21 <b>Worship</b> 8am Prayer Shawl 9:15am Sunday School 9:15a Holy Com. 10L30am	22 Cub Scouts 6:30pm Boy Scouts 7:30pm 6 p.m. Worship Committee	23 Quilt Knotting 9am AA 7pm Al-Anon 7pm	24 <b>Lenten Wednesday</b> 10:30 a.m. Study 11 a.m. Worship 11:30 Soup/Bread 5:45 Soup/Bread 6:15 Study 7 p.m. Worship 7:45 Choir	25 Bells 7pm Mail Team #4 7pm Brass 8pm	26 Pastor's Day off	27 Worship 5pm AA 7pm
28 Holy Com. 8am Fellowship Mt 9:15a Prayer Shawl 9:15am Sunday School 9:15a	29 Cub Scouts 6:30pm Boy Scouts 7:30pm	3/1 <b>March</b> NBC Garden 6:30pm AA 7pm Al-Anon 7pm Chris. Ed. 7pm	3/2 <b>Lenten Wednesday</b> 10:30 a.m. Study 11 a.m. Worship 11:30 Soup/Bread 5:45 Soup/Bread 6:15 Study 7 p.m. Worship 7:45 Choir	3/3 Bells 7pm Brass 8pm	3/4 Pastor's Day off	3/5 Worship 5pm AA 7pm

# February Birthdays 2016

Like us on Facebook at "Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Perry Township"

[www.zionslutheran.org](http://www.zionslutheran.org)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>1 Alyssa Noecker Deanna Puglia Adrienne Puglia Melissa Gruber Phil Kerr</i>	<i>2 Kyleigh Mengel Scott Lopez</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>7 Cathleen Mengel</i>	<i>8 Anna Billig James Blandford Brayden Heckman</i>	<i>9 Keith Hertzog</i>	<i>10 Grant Doklan Wesley Trabosh</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12 *Jane Francis Christina Steffy</i>	<i>13 Alyx Mazaika</i>
<i>14 Lauren Werley-Wolf Katelyn Heckman William Hill</i>	<i>15 Tiffany Youse</i>	<i>16 Carolyn Geist Carolyn Sunday Keith Seidel</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18 Mikalee Kerr</i>	<i>19 Samuel Stewart</i>	<i>20 Dewey Freeman Jory Heckman</i>
<i>21 Madson Hoffert Lois DeTurk Patricia Adam Duane Seidel</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23 Zachary Hoherchak</i>	<i>24 Ernest Heckman</i>	<i>25 Carielle Geist Joshua Schaeffer Tyler Pond</i>	<i>26 Ruth Wilhelm Joel Werley</i>	<i>27 Christopher Schaeffer</i>
<i>28</i>	<i>29 Ryan Boyer</i>	<p><b>Get more information in the Church Office. Encourage all local farmers to attend!</b></p> <h2 style="margin: 0;">Farm Family Appreciation Celebration</h2> <h3 style="margin: 0;">Saturday, March 19, 2016</h3> <p style="margin: 0;">Sponsored in part by various religious, social and financial organizations</p>				

## **About the Northern Berks Ministerium**

### **Lenten Thursday Worship Program**

Each week, the soup and bread devotional event is held at a different congregation in the greater Hamburg area. All are welcome at these events.

**11:30 a.m. Worship - 12 p.m. Soup and Bread is served**

**Offerings benefit the Northern Berks Ministerium's  
Emergency Outreach Assistance Fund**

**2016 Theme: "Giving It Up"**

**Thursday, February 11 @ 11:30 a.m.**

**"Giving Up Control"**

**At Zion's Lutheran Church, Perry Township**

**Rev. Bruce Osterhout**

**Thursday, February 18 @ 11:30 a.m.**

**"Giving Up Expectations"**

**At St. John Lutheran Church, 89 Church Street, Hamburg**

**Rev. Burl Latshaw**

**Thursday, February 25 @ 11:30 a.m.**

**"Giving Up Superiority"**

**At St. Michael's Lutheran Church, 529 St. Michael's Rd., Tilden Township**

**Rev. Rev. Paul Buzzard**

**Thursday, March 3 @ 11:30 a.m.**

**"Giving Up Enemies"**

**At Frieden's Lutheran Church, 28 Wolf Creek Road, Shartlesville**

**Rev. Inge Williams**

**Thursday, March 10 @ 11:30 a.m.**

**"Giving Up Our Lives"**

**At St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, 94 Walnut Rd. Tilden Township**

**Father Don Cieniewicz**

**Thursday, March 17 @ 11:30 a.m.**

**"Giving Up Popularity"**

## **What is the Season of Lent all about?**

Lent is about remembering the passion and death of Jesus Christ. Lent is studying the life of Jesus, who suffered and died on the cross. Lent is a 40 days period (excluding Sundays) to focus on God's gift of Jesus, who died to save all people from their sins. Lent is about practicing some "self-denial", trying to make one's life a little more God-like. Believers set time aside each day for personal devotions. Believers fight the urge to be "too busy". They meditate. They rest. They reflect. They invite others to consider practicing the faith. They encourage. They pray.

## **How long have Christians been observing Lent?**

Faithful Christians have long used the 6 weeks of Lent to prepare themselves to celebrate Christ's Resurrection on Easter. It has always been a time of preparation and instruction for new Christians. **Is there someone you know who wishes to grow closer to God?** Lent is a great time to invite them to do that.

## **How can I participate in the disciplines of Lenten?**

By worshipping regularly. By studying the Bible regularly with others. By "giving up" something because God "gave up" Jesus. By giving more. By practicing self-discipline. By serving others more. By praying more. By doing daily devotions. By making a life change that brings you closer to God. By working hard at being a "Christian". By inviting someone else you know to deepen their faith and then walking with them during Lent.

**Anyone desiring the Sacrament of Holy Baptism for themselves (or for their children) is invited** to contact Pastor Bruce as soon as possible to begin preparations. Baptisms will be celebrated at *The Vigil of Easter service on Saturday, March 26 at 7 p.m.*, which is a very special night to be baptized. **We begin in the darkness of Lent and end with the light of Easter.**

**Children, youth and adults of all ages who wish to learn about the Sacrament of Holy Communion are invited** to participate in 3 weeks of study and learning, on the Sundays of March 6, 13, 20. Attend worship at 10:30 a.m. and then stay for lunch, fellowship and instruction with Pastor Bruce until about 1:30 p.m. Those who have prepared themselves may receive their First Communion on the Night of the Last Supper, Maundy Thursday, March 24 at 7 p.m.

## **About our Easter Sunday (March 27) - 9 a.m. Children's Worship Plans**

On Palm Sunday, March 20, during Sunday School, there will be a rehearsal for the **Children's Worship Service (to be held on Easter Sunday in place of Sunday School)**. There is no Adult Sunday School lesson planned for Palm Sunday but a review of the events of Holy Week will take place as a part of the rehearsal in the Nave. **The Youth Dress Rehearsal** will be held on Saturday, March 25 after the 9:30 a.m. Traditional Real Egg Hunt. Youth report at 8:45 a.m. to hide the eggs.



## Ash Wednesday, February 10

### *Worship Schedule*

#### **11 a.m. at Zion's Lutheran Church**

Zion's Lutheran Members have been invited to worship with our friends at

#### **7 p.m. At St. Paul's(Smoke) Lutheran 2613**

#### **Old 22 - Windsor Township**

("Smoke Church" members are invited to worship at Zion's on Good Friday, March 25 at 7 p.m.)

### **What Adults Will Be Doing at Zion's on Lenten Wednesday mornings**

10:30 a.m. Scripture Study of the Coming Sunday's Scripture Readings

11 a.m. Worship in the Gold Room Chapel

11:30 a.m. Soup and Bread

Midweek Wednesdays: Feb.17, Feb. 24, Mar.2, Mar. 9 and Mar.16

### **What Adults Will Be Doing at Zion's on Lenten Wednesday evenings**

#### **"Portraits of Christ"**

This six session Bible Study for Lent considers the lives of 6 Old Testament saints: Daniel, David, Moses, Joseph, Isaac and Adam. In these people and in the mighty acts of God in their lives, we see reflections that point down through the ages to Christ our Savior. In them, we have a portrait of the obedience, faithfulness and sacrifice of God's Son.

5:45 - 6:15 p.m. Soup/Bread is served in the Adult Study Room.

6:15 p.m. An Adult Study Group meets in the Adult Study Room.

7 p.m. Lenten worship follows the study in the Gold Room Chapel.

7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsal

Midweek Wednesdays: Feb.17, Feb. 24, Mar.2, Mar. 9 and Mar.16

### **What the Zion's Adults will be studying on Lenten Sundays at 9:15 a.m.: "Living Lent as Easter People"**

Sunday, February 14 - "Ponder" Sunday, February 21 - "Purpose"

Sunday, February 28 - "People" Sunday, March 6 - "Proclaim"

Sunday, March 13 - "Praise" Sunday, March 20 - "Pain"

### **What the Zion's Youth will be studying on Lenten Sundays at**

#### **9:15 a.m. w Pastor Bruce/Mark Dreibelbis**

\*Tracing the footsteps of Jesus through the Gospel of Mark. At the center of Mark's Gospel of the kingdom, at the center of the labyrinth that is your life, is Jesus' question: "**Who do you say that I am?**"

Sunday, February 14, Sunday, February 21, Sunday, February 28

Sunday, March 6, Sunday, March 13, Sunday, March 20

Maybe closer to home is better, for you, in the winter? Try one of these:

### **Shoemakersville Ministerial Association**

Lenten Worship opportunities on Wednesday evenings:

#### **6 p.m. Soup/Sandwiches 7 p.m. Worship**

Wed. Feb. 10 - Salem UMC-Shoey Preacher: Rev. Breiner

Wed. Feb. 17 - Bethany UMC-Hamburg Preacher: Rev. Hemer

Wed. Feb. 24 - Salem Bema-Tilden UMC Preacher: Rev. Sabas

Wed. Mar. 2 - St. Luke's Union-Shoey Preacher: Rev. Hostetter

Wed. Mar. 9 - Bethany UMC-Hamburg Jews for Jesus

# **“Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church of Perry Township”**

**Like us on Facebook      [www.zionslutheran.org](http://www.zionslutheran.org)**

354 Zion’s Church Road, Shoemakersville, PA 19555

Church Office: 610-562-3112

Church Office Email is [churchoffice@zionslutheran.org](mailto:churchoffice@zionslutheran.org)

**The Church office is currently staffed with volunteers on  
Friday mornings from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.**

**Worship times:** Saturdays at 5 p.m.,    Sundays at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday School for all ages at 9:15 a.m.

**God’s Purpose for Zion’s is to welcome and empower people to grow in  
faithfulness and service to His mission through the Gospel.**

+ Jesus is Lord and Savior + Honest and open communication    + Create and sustain healthy relationships  
+ Share our faith through our daily life + Recognize and encourage people’s spiritual gifts. + Perseverance

## **Church Staff**

The Rev. Bruce G. Osterhout, Pastor (Cell: 610-914-2795)

Email at [pastorbruce@zionslutheran.org](mailto:pastorbruce@zionslutheran.org)

Organist: Wellesley Keal    Choir Director: Don Ryan    Handbells/Brass: Steven Turner

Custodians: Ruth Hoppes, Brian Moroney, and Karen Mengel

## **2015 Congregation Council Members:**

Jim Hirko, President; Brian Moroney, Vice President; Tiffany Gruber, Secretary; Sandra Moroney, Treasurer;  
Susan Lutz, Joe Leone, Bill Deibler, Jerry O’Brien, Dawn O’Brien, Cleta Borkey, Dwight Heckman, Brad Doklan,

**One position remains vacant.** The Council meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.

**February is re-organization month with officers to be elected.**

## **Community Ministries @ Zion’s**

A.A. and Al-Anon meet on Tuesdays at 7 p.m.    A.A. meets on Saturdays at 7 p.m.

Cub Scout Pack #163 meets Mondays at 6:30 p.m.

Boy Scout Troop #163 meets on Mondays at 7:30 p.m.

## **Regular Weekly Activities - Please Join In**

Adult Choir Rehearsal: Wednesdays from 7:30 - 9 p.m.    Hand Bell Rehearsal: Thursdays at 7 p.m.

Brass Rehearsal: Thursdays at 8 p.m.

## **Regular Monthly Activities – Please join In**

Quilt-Knotters: Normally Second/Fourth Tuesdays 9 - 11 a.m. in the Gold Room

**Senior Adult Fellowship: February 11 beginning at 10:30 a.m. for fellowship**

**Northern Berks Ministerium Worship – Thursday, February 11 at 11:30 a.m.**

**Held in the Fellowship Hall. Soup and Bread lunch to follow worship**

# ZION'S MESSENGER

February 2016

Church Phone: 610-562-3112  
Church email: churchoffice@zionslutheran.org  
Church website: www.zionslutheran.org  
Church Fax: 610-562-0461

Saturday worship ---- 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday Church School - 9:15 A.M.  
Sunday Worship Services ---- 8 & 10:30 A.M.



Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
354 Zion's Church Road, Shoemakersville, PA 19555

## PURPOSE STATEMENT

God's Purpose for Zion's is to welcome and empower people to grow in faithfulness and service to His mission through the Gospel.

† Jesus is Lord and Savior † † Honest and open communication † † Create and sustain healthy relationships †  
† Share our faith through our daily life † † Recognize and encourage people's spiritual gifts † † Perseverance †

† A congregation united in Christ making Zion's a destination not an obligation. †

Lent Begins  
Ash Wednesday -  
Feb. 10 - 11 a.m.  
Worship @ Zion's

Zion's Lutheran Church  
354 Zion's Church Rd.  
Shoemakersville, PA 19555