



ZION'S NEWSLETTER

JULY 2016

FROM THE PASTOR...

Dear Members of Zion's Lutheran Church,

The summer season is now fully upon us. We had a long spring. The days are now warm and the evenings long. This newsletter will be printed, folded and mailed during the week when the daylight lingers past 9:30 p.m. What a contrast to the short days of December! I hope that you are able to get out and enjoy the weather in whatever way you like, going and doing, near and far. If you are away on a Sunday, worship where you are and bring a bulletin back to share with me. (I don't get out very much on Sundays)

Our morning Bible School was been a "Cave Quest" adventure which has included a chance to go to Crystal Cave to see the wonders of creation, underground! Our 5 learning session themes were: (Monday) Jesus gives us hope, with Sal the Salamander. (Tuesday) Jesus gives us courage with Mawtha the Butterfly. (Wednesday) Jesus gives us direction with Radar the Bat. (Thursday) Jesus gives us love with Olivia the Owl. (Friday) Jesus gives us power with Ray the Lightning Bug. Our young people have enjoyed their time together growing in their faith. It will be a joy for me to have my 5 grandchildren participating. Thank you to all of the youth and adults who helped out. More than 70 people were involved during the week. Thank you to Ruth Wilhelm for coordinating the whole effort. Ask the students who participated what they learned!

This Sunday, June 26 our Sunday morning worship time moves to 9 a.m. As you are out and about, please consider our Saturday at 5 p.m. alternative worship service, especially if you are away on Sunday. Please also remember that you can give your off on-line even when you are away. Our efficient on-line giving method is growing, please use it. We will worship at 9 a.m. through Labor Day Weekend, September 4.

On the 10th Anniversary of my grandmother's death, my family will gather in upstate New York to pay our respects. Pastor Ned Dresher will be the supply pastor on Sat. July 16 and Sunday, July 17. Come and remember his good ministry with Zion's years ago.

Saturday, July 23 from 8 - 10 a.m., please come for the second annual Mark Epting Memorial Breakfast held in the church Social Hall. Support the Shoemakersville Lion's Club Carnival, July 22-23, an event that was dear to Mark's heart. Please be involved in and work for betterment of the community as passionately as Mark did.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE: • July Responsibilities • Up-Coming Events • Did You Know •
•Happening Around Town • Church Reports

The "Church Backyard Back to School Bash" **will not happen** on Saturday, August 20. Stay tuned for all the details when that might be held. Along the way this summer, we will likely have a Shoemakersville Pool event as the pool has been offered to our church for free. At this printing, our Christian Education Committee is figuring out what night might work best. Please support the Shoemakersville Playground program and Pool during these summer months.

For the first time, I will attend the ELCA National Assembly, having been elected by the East Berks Mission District last year. It will be held in New Orleans. I will be gone from August 8-15 to participate in this bi-annual gathering of our whole ELCA.

May all the blessings of summer be yours. I am



Statement from Bishop Schaefer on the shootings at Pulse Club in Orlando Yesterday, just a few hours before the end of the Florida-Bahamas Synod Assembly under the theme "Let Justice Roll Down Like Waters"(Amos 5:24), and less than fifty miles from where we were meeting in Daytona, hate once again reared its ugly head. I have no doubt today that God's tears are rolling down like a flood. As Christians, we turn first to Jesus, who endured the agony of the cross to redeem and reconcile the world and who, even now, consoles and leads us as we walk in the shadow of that cross. Join me in praying for the victims of this atrocity, their families, the family of the shooter, all the first responders, chaplains, hospital staffs, and for the city of Orlando. Remember, "...the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words" (Romans 8:26). But, we can no longer afford to let it end there. In his sermon at the assembly's closing Eucharist on Sunday morning, Pr. William Flippin, Jr. reminded us that as Christians we DO NOT have the right to remain silent. He is right. Our baptismal covenant summons every Christian to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. The time for action is here. We cannot keep voicing kind sentiments and kicking action down the road. While this shooter appears to be an individual extremist affected by extremist rhetoric, right now there is no direct evidence that he was part of a terrorist group. The American Muslim Community Center, a mosque in Longwood, Florida, said the mosque stands with Americans and "senseless violence has no place in our religion or in our society." There are deeper issues here. Church, it's time to be clear about honoring and speaking up for the basic human rights of the LGBTQ community and reasonable gun control in this country. How many hate crimes against the LGBTQ do we need to tolerate? How many humans need to be massacred by commonly available assault weapons before we come to our senses? Two of my own daughters have school connections with two of those who died. There is an entire generation that needs to hear a clear and uncompromising word from the church: Every human being shares in the image of God and, therefore, shares the same dignity without regard to racial or ethnic distinction, family status, age, economic status, gender, sexual orientation, or differing abilities. Period. This senseless violence must end. Our prayer and our clarion call to action as Christians is that justice may at last roll down like waters. +Robert G. Schaefer Bishop,

“Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church of Perry Township”

Like us on Facebook www.zionslutheran.org

354 Zion’s Church Road, Shoemakersville, PA 19555

Church Office: 610-562-3112

Church Office Email is churchoffice@zionslutheran.org

The Church Office is open for business Tuesdays- Fridays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Worship Services: Saturdays at 5 p.m. Sundays at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
No Sunday School for the Summer. Sunday School will resume after Labor Day

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

Amanda Grow, Administrative Assistant

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

Custodians: Ruth Hoppes, Brian Moroney, and Karen Mengel Payroll: Sandra Moroney

2016 Congregation Council Members:

Jim Hirko, President; Brian Moroney, Vice President; Jerry O’Brien, Secretary; Sandra Moroney, Treasurer; Susan Lutz, Joe Leone, Bill Deibler, Dawn O’Brien, Cleta Borkey, Brad Doklan, Eileen Puglia, Mitch Shestok

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

Community Ministries @ Zion’s

A.A. and Al-Anon meets 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. Steve Gilbert is the Cub Master.

Boy Scout Troop #163 meets on Mondays at 7:30 p.m. Jesse Strausser is the Boy Scout leader.

Regular Weekly Activities - Please Join In

Brass Rehearsal: Thursdays at 8 p.m.

Regular Monthly Activities – Please join In

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

Zion’s Senior Adult Fellowship: Thurs. 6/21 10:30 am Perry Restaurant

Zion’s Book Group: Thurs.6/21 at 6:30 p.m.

Food Distribution Volunteers are always welcome each month:

On the 3rd Saturdays from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Lutheran Church of Holy Trinity, Leesport. Community service hours can be recorded.

On the 4th Tuesdays from 5 -8 p.m., volunteers are always welcome at the Hamburg Middle School Pantry Distribution

Volunteer Responsibilities for June

GREETERS

July 3 – 9:00 am Dan, Carolyn, & Carielle Geist
10- 9:00 am David & Mary Mengle
17 – 9:00 am Venus Fioravanti & Rita Decker
24 – 9:00 am Brenda Hartman & Myrle Werley
31 – 9:00 am Leone Family

MAIL TEAM # 1 Thursday, July 21st

Ruth Hoppes, Tiffany & Samantha Gruber, Pat Potts

ACOLYTES

July 3 – 9:00 am Carielle Geist
10- 9:00 am Luke Mengel
17 – 9:00 am Alyssa Blandford
24 – 9:00 am Paul Engle
31 – 9:00 am Jacob Fegley

SERVING OPPORTUNITY HOUSE MEAL

Friday July 15th Susie Lutz Captain, Woody Lutz,
Erin Seidel, Paul Weidner

LECTORS

July 3 – 9:00 am Venus Fioravanti
10- 9:00 am Katie Stefan
17 – 9:00 am Faye Heckman
24 – 9:00 am Mark Dreibelbis
31 – 9:00 am Jeanette Heckman

10:30 a.m. NURSERY ATTENDANTS

No Nursery June 26th - September 4th 2016

ALTAR GUILD

Ruth Hoppes, Cleta Borkey



COFFEE BAR

\$ Clearance Sale \$

We are clearing out our Fair Trade inventory of coffee and tea products. Fairly traded coffee and tea provides income directly to the farmers that grow the product, bypassing the large corporate plantations. Please see the display stand in the Narthex. We have bags and cans of coffee, and lots of tea. Thank you



HAPPY KNOTTERS/Quilters

The Happy Knotters need people willing to sew quilt tops together; they do not have to be perfect. **Cut squares and instructions can be picked up in the church office & finished quilt tops shall be returned to the church office.** Please sign the paper in front of the quilt when you take squares.

We are in need of used flat flannel sheets, mattress pads, blankets or whatever material you would like to give. If you would like to donate any of the above items they can be placed outside the church office door. (Please mark “knotters”). Thanks again.

Contact the office to donate or for information on this group which meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays from 9 – 11 a.

Hey Face bookers who are Happy Quilt Knotters!

Why not join [facebook.com/groups/LWRQuilters?](https://www.facebook.com/groups/LWRQuilters/)

The **July** Food Item for The Hamburg Food Pantry Is: **Freeze Pops, Spaghetti O's, Trail Mix, Dried Fruit, Fruit Roll Ups**

Please place donations in the shopping cart in the narthex. Thanks for helping members of our community to be able to help ends meet!



LIBRARY

a place for people

Book Group Meetings

Meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm

Thursday July 21st - 13 Hours in Benghazi by Mitchell Zuckoff

The library volunteers will meet at 1:30 P.M. on Wednesdays of July 6th & 20th. The church library is open throughout the summer, but please remember to sign out any material on the clipboard found on the desk and add your telephone number too. Thanks!

Book Review

A short review of the "Book Club" read from last month of May titled "I am Malala" written by Malala Yousafzai with Christina Lamb.

The biography is about a young girl from Pakistan named Malala. She was very fortunate to have a father, Ziauddin, that valued his daughter as much as his sons. He wanted to celebrate her birth like you would a son's by shooting a gun, but instead had to hide her in a back room. Her father also wanted an education for his daughter and wanted her to roam freely outdoors just like his son's could. Malala having the same nature and drive as her father spoke out about these freedoms and because of it suffered a gun shot to her face from the Taliban.

In my opinion she was very lucky to have a father that understood their faith, Muslim, and that God wanted male and female to be educated and free. He worked very hard to start schools for girls and was successful in spite of the many setbacks. While reading this book you feel like you're having a conversation with Malala.

Ruth Ann Eyer



NORTHERN BERKS COMMUNITY GARDEN

Garden News

Lettuce be thankful! We would like to give a big thank you to the generous members of our congregation who donated money and plants to replace the tomato and pepper plants lost to frost damage. We were able to replace all of our plants and everything looks great.

Our 3rd harvest season is officially underway. To date, we have harvested 83 pounds of lettuce, distributed to Keystone Military, the Hamburg Salvation Army and the Schuylkill Valley Food Pantry. As the harvest season gets underway, we will start working most Thursday nights at 6 pm. Lori will continue to send out notices via email/phone each week and announcements will continue to be made at worship services. Tuesday mornings at 8 am will be added to our work schedule as the crops come in.

Drivers are still needed for deliveries, which are made weekday mornings and evenings as well as an occasional Saturday morning.

To receive notifications of our work day schedules, please contact Lori at 610-401-1186 to be put on our phone/email list, or email us at communitygarden@zionslutheran.org. You can also check Zion's Facebook page for volunteer/weather updates. Come out to help once a week or once a month. Either way, we look forward to seeing you at the Garden!

Submitted by:

Eileen Puglia, NBCG Secretary

IMPORTANT NOTICE

ATTENTION All:

If you have not filed for your Clearances, Participation Agreement, Child Abuse, and Criminal Record. Please contact/visit Church Office as soon as possible to get proper paper work to fill out!!

Lawn Mowing Volunteers Needed: Please consider helping to keep the church grounds looking good this summer. A volunteer sign-up sheet is posted on the Narthex bulletin board. If you need more information about what is involved, contact Michael Puglia or any Property Committee member.

Upcoming Events at Zion's

- **Amanda (Admin. Asst.) will be out of the Church Office July 13th -16th she and her fiance will be traveling to Reno, NV!!**

- **Watch out for New Envelopes for**
 - **Capital Improvement**
 - **Local Outreach Lutheran Congregation Service**
 - **Property Manangement**
 - **CharityEmergency Fund**

Also wanted in the Spring/Summer:

- ❖ **Someone to coordinate a Blue Marsh picnic in the Dry Brooks Picnic area down by the beach. Members would be invited to bring their watercraft that day to share boat-jet ski-party barge/pontoon rides.*cont.***

- ❖ **Someone to arrange a spring hike from the North Look out at Hawk Mountain on a Sunday afternoon. The hike should be Doable for all ages and not longer than 2-4 miles. An advanced higher ability hike might also be possible.**
- ❖ **Someone to arrange a family biking event on the Bertram Trail in Hamburg.**
- ❖ **See Pastor Bruce if you are interested in helping out with any of these events. Thank you.**



GRADUATIONS CONGRATULATIONS

Two additional Hamburg High School Graduates of 2016:

Morgan Delong

Zoey Adam, Zoey was nominated for the Communications Award in the Reading Eagle Best of Berks Section of the paper.

Did You Know?

Zion's Senior Adults Activities Thursday, July 17th at beginning 10:30 a.m. We meet at the Perry Restaurant to play cards in the back meeting room.

Thursday, August 18th beginning at 10:30 a.m. Potluck lunch – Bring your favorite picnic food. We meet in the air-conditioning at church.

Save a Tape



Zion's collects Redner's receipts 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. If you shop without your card, you can take your receipt to Customer Service within two weeks of purchase to submit the eligible receipt for the program. January to June we have received a check in the amount of \$329.19. Keep those receipts coming!!!! Thanks!

Zion's Donates Eye Glasses

Have old eye glasses you don't use anymore? Bring them into Zion's Lutheran Church. There is donation bucket in the Narthex on the table. Donations will be given to the Lion's Club.

Zion's Recycles

*Printer cartridges, office paper, cardboard,
& coupons for troops*

Zion's is Collecting Used Shoes, Just

as we did last June, Please put used shoes in boxes under the coat rack in the Narthex, for more information please visit shooboxrecycling.org

WELCA has announced there will be no meetings for the months of July and August. Meetings will resume in September

Hymns and Haws

Dentist's hymn: "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

Contractor's hymn: "The Church's One Foundation"

Baker's hymn: "I Need Thee Every Hour"

Weather forecaster's hymn: "There Shall Be Showers of Blessings"

Optometrist's hymn: "Open My Eyes That I Might See"

Tailor's hymn: "Holy! Holy! Holy!"

IRS's hymn: "All to Thee"

Shopper's hymn: "By and By"

Sponsors needed for Sunday Bulletins, Reading Eagle, & Hamburg Item for the months of June, July, & August. Come on in Pick a Date and send a special message!!



Zion's Lutheran is updating our Church Member Directory, if you have moved since January 2015 or are planning to move, if you have changed your home phone number, or cell phone number, and any changes to email address. Please provide proper contact information to Church Office to be updated (for office use only) Thank You! (610)-562-3112 or churchoffice@zionslutheran.org

Choir will resume practice the Wednesday after Labor Day.



Volunteers are needed to assist Pastor Bruce in preparing and serving the **2nd Annual Mark Epting Memorial Breakfast**, on Saturday, July 23 from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Proceeds from the breakfast will benefit the Shoemakersville Lions Club of which Mark was a founder. Please support the Shoemakersville Lions Club Carnival on Friday and Saturday, July 22nd -23rd.

Special Congratulations to Sharon Strauss for winning \$100 for the Reading Eagle Cover all Bingo!

Special Prayers, Thoughts, & Thanks

Prayer shawls are available in the coat room area to give to people for comfort, especially to people outside of the Zion community. Please sign the notebook so we know who the prayer shawls are given to.

A Doll House was donated to Zion's Sunday School. What a lovely donation for imaginations, yet Zion's needs your help, we have a doll house yet no house hold items such as furniture, dolls, clothing, and doll household objects. If you or any one you know has such items willing to be donated it would be greatly appreciated. You may bring your donations to the Church Office, Thank you.

Thank you from all the clients and staff at Opportunity House for volunteering in our kitchen on Friday night. Please share our thanks and deep gratitude with all the members of your Zions Lutheran cooking team. Happy Summer! John



VBS Thanks to all the volunteers who helped make our Vacation Bible School such a success! Special shout out to our station leaders: Jeanette Heckman, Roberta Ott, Ruth Ann Eyer, Tiffany Gruber, Vernie Noecker, Veronica Heckman, and Pastor Bruce. Kudos to our crew leaders! Donna Long, Dawn O'Brien, Sandra Moroney, Ruth Bensinger, Bob Noecker, Elsa Gundrum and Sasha Denatala. Can't forget to thank Faye Heckman our preschool teacher for VBS. Thanks to these helpers as well! Linda Bowling, Carolyn Geist, Amanda Grow, Julie Howard, Elaine Schroeder, Barbara Seidel, Carrie Wilhelm and Alan Woestman. I also need to thank our parents, and grandparents who transported all the children to and from Church every day. A huge thank you to Gerald O'Brien for engineering the building of our bible buddies and cave centerpiece. Thanks to Henry and Madeline Seidel for arranging our trip to Crystal Cave!
Director Ruth Wilhelm

Happening Around Town

Volunteer Reading Tutors are needed at Perry Elementary Center for the Ready.Set.Read! This program will begin again in late September. Help make a difference in a child's life. Volunteers to tutor 2nd graders who are struggling with reading are needed from 3:30 -4:15 p.m. on Wednesdays. No previous experience is necessary. Training is available. Current background clearances are required prior to the assignment. Check out readysettreadberks.org. Call Darby Wiekrykas at united Way at 610-685-4574 or speak with Pastor Bruce who did it this past year.

July 22nd & 23rd –Lions Club Carnival at Park

July 27th – Annual Shoey Pool Party

Celebrate Your Faith Night,

Reading Phils, FirstEnergy Stadium, 1900 South Centre Avenue, Reading PA 19605. Please call Barbara Shafer at 484-336-8995 for tickets.

- Post-game fireworks each game
* Tickets are Non-Refundable
* Buffets are served rain or shine
* No outside food or beverage is permitted into the ballpark

\$29.00 Blue Box+Deck Buffet (T.A.)
\$26.00 Blue Box + Deck Buffet
\$14.00 Blue Box Seat (T.A.)
\$11.00 Blue Box

Thursday, June 30, 2016 vs. Harrisburg FirstEnergy Stadium 7:05 PM Deadline to order tickets is June 23

Thursday, July 21, 2016 vs. Hartford FirstEnergy Stadium 7:05 PM Deadline to order tickets is July 14

Thursday, August 18, 2016 vs. Richmond FirstEnergy Stadium 7:05 PM Deadline to order tickets August 11



Alsace Lutheran Church Reading Peach Festival
July 17th 4-8 pm, entertainment, food, games, fun and fellowship

CHURCH REPORTS



1-1-16	Beginning Balance	-\$8,842.42
	General Offering	\$94,773.63
	Special Offering	\$11,170.47
	Sub Total	\$97,101.68
	Current Expenses	\$90,054.86
5-30-16	Balance	\$7,046.82

Council Corner

Zion's June 14th Church Council meeting opened with devotions.

Review of the **Treasurer's Report**, accepted by Council vote, noted that Zion's finished May 2016 in the black with \$7,046.82. The May general offering was \$15,480.70, which included \$1,256.69 online giving.

Jim reported a \$430 decrease in insurance costs for our renewal. Even though our building and personal property limits increased, there was a significant decrease in our workers' compensation premiums. Upon receiving updated information about the Auto Folder folding machine, including that it was only purchased in August 2011, it was decided to keep the folder, download the online manual, and determine what uses it can have.

The **Secretary's Report** for the May 10th meeting was approved as submitted.

The **Pastor's Report** was presented for the period covering May 11 to June 14, 2016. Our process for obtaining a supply Pastor was discussed, which is currently taken care of by Pastor Bruce. Pastor Drescher has volunteered to cover June 11th and July 16th Saturday services, and will be paid to supply on Sunday, July 17th. A supply pastor is still needed for August 13/14.

It was determined that the decision to host Family Promise again should be referred to Welcome & Outreach. We would need to check which weeks are available for us host. Mitch will report Welcome & Outreach's decision by next Council meeting. Jim signed Zion's excuse letter for not having Assembly delegates at the Synod Assembly this weekend.

There will be no July All Committee Heads meeting. We will use the August 1st All Committee Heads meeting, starting at 6:30 pm, to set the 2016-2017 program year schedule. The goal will be to gather dates from all committees to put together one calendar.

Highlights of Committee Reports:

Stewardship – no committee

Altar Guild – meets July 28th

Worship & Music – meets Thursday night

Christian Education – it was clarified that Music Sunday is a partnership between Worship & Music and Christian Education. Suggestions are already being received regarding next year's Music Sunday. Back to School Bash is scheduled for August 20th.

Child Protection clearances continue to be addressed. So far 24 elementary children and 7 preschoolers had signed up for VBS, and 25 for the trip to Crystal Cave.

Welcome & Outreach - Their committee will be functioning without a chairperson. Mitch will attend the All Committee Head meetings as the representative. They will not be doing Hamburger Festival this year.

WELCA – Relay for Life raised \$2000, which was above their \$1800 goal. Contributions can still be given to Zion’s Circle of Hope. Meetings will resume in September.

Media – No committee

Fellowship – The annual Church picnic plans were made. There will be no coffee bar this summer. Christian Education will be contacted to see if they would want a coffee bar set up outside on Rally Day (Sept 11th) to welcome the parents and children.

Finance – Joe Leone checked on bonding for our counters. Our counting team members are covered as long as they are a Zion’s church member. No names need to be submitted for coverage.

Discussion held regarding interfacing Vanco online giving and our Church Windows software program. Joe will check with Vanco regarding this issue.

A discussion was held regarding the current Fair Trade coffee inventory. Elaine was previously in charge of managing inventory. No additional inventory has been or will be ordered. Eileen will write a newsletter notice regarding selling our coffee inventory. Any excess can be frozen for use at church functions.

Labyrinth – Trevor Fegley and volunteers laid out a sample labyrinth this morning, ready to be viewed for this weekend’s picnic. The committee met again May 23rd. The township will be contacted for maps of our drain field before any digging could be considered.

Endowment – Mitch presented, and Council approved, the revised Zion’s Lutheran Church Mission Endowment Fund Charter. This fund has been in existence since 2005. The revision included a distribution request form. Their committee is interested in eventually having someone with a financial background speak to our members regarding endowments in general.

Northern Berks Community Garden – 83 pounds of lettuce has already been harvested and donated to Keystone Military, Hamburg Salvation Army, and the Schuylkill Valley Food Pantry. Congregation

members generously donated plants and funds to replace plants damaged by frost.

Property – The refrigerator has been repaired. The technician will return to check for any small leaks.

Personnel – Amanda Grow has completed her 90 day probationary period. Congratulations!

Old Business.

There were several items referred for future goal planning meetings, including need for a youth ministry advisor/seminarian position and compilation of a Church “Wish List” for items or property needs that would be appropriate funding opportunities for member donations or for memorial donations.

Mitch continues to research the status of our membership record numbers, including the membership book/ledger and the Church Windows software program database. Our last report to Synod was 686 members, and our current directory lists 566 people. Council approved updating Church Windows and our membership book/ledger for accuracy and completeness and authorized extra hours for Amanda Grow above her 16 hour work week, if needed, for data entry to assist with reconciling these records. Jim will notify the Personnel Committee.

New Business.

Eileen relayed members’ concerns regarding taping anything on the glass windows in the rear of the sanctuary. It was also noted that we all need to discourage the taping and tacking of materials to the church walls. It was suggested to look at the need for additional bulletin boards in rooms if there isn’t sufficient space to display information and notices. The Church Council picnic will be held on July 10th at the Hirko’s. A sign-up sheet was passed around. In answer to a member’s inquiries, the following was noted:

Council Minutes – monthly Church Council minutes, in addition to committee minutes, are available in the Church office for anyone to review.

Photo policy – Members may opt out of having their picture taken. There are Parental Media Restriction Forms located next to the narthex bulletin board and on the Church website.

The meeting was closed with the Lord’s Prayer. The next Council meeting is Tuesday, July 12th, 2016.

Submitted by Eileen Puglia, Church Council member

July 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				30 6-8 pm. Garden 8 pm. Brass	1	2 5 pm. Worship 7 pm. A.A. AL-Anon
3 9 am. Worship	4	5 8-10 am Garden 7 pm. A. A. AL-Anon	6	7 10:00 am Labyrinth Mtg. 6-8 pm. Garden 8 pm. Brass	8	9 5 pm. Worship 7 pm. A.A. AL-Anon
10 9 am. Worship	11	12 8-10 am Garden 9-11 am Knotters 7:00pm Council Meeting 7 pm. A. A. AL-Anon	13 :	14 9:00am Cemetery Mtg. 6-8 pm. Garden 8 pm. Brass	15 Opp. House Meal	16 5 pm. Worship 7 pm. A.A. AL-Anon
17 9 am. Worship	18	19 8-10 am Garden 7 pm. A. A. AL-Anon	20	21 10:30 am Seniors Perry Restaurant Mail Team #1 6-8 pm. Garden 8 pm. Brass	22	23 8-10am Epting Breakfast 5 pm. Worship 7 pm. A.A. AL-Anon
24 9 am. Worship ----- 31	25	26 8-10 am Garden 9-11 am Knotters 7 pm. A. A. AL-Anon	27	28 6:00pm Worship & Music Mtg. 7:15pm Joint W & M / Altar Committee. 7:30pm Alter Committee 6-8 pm. Garden 8 pm. Brass	29	30

July 2016 Birthday Calendar

JULY 2016

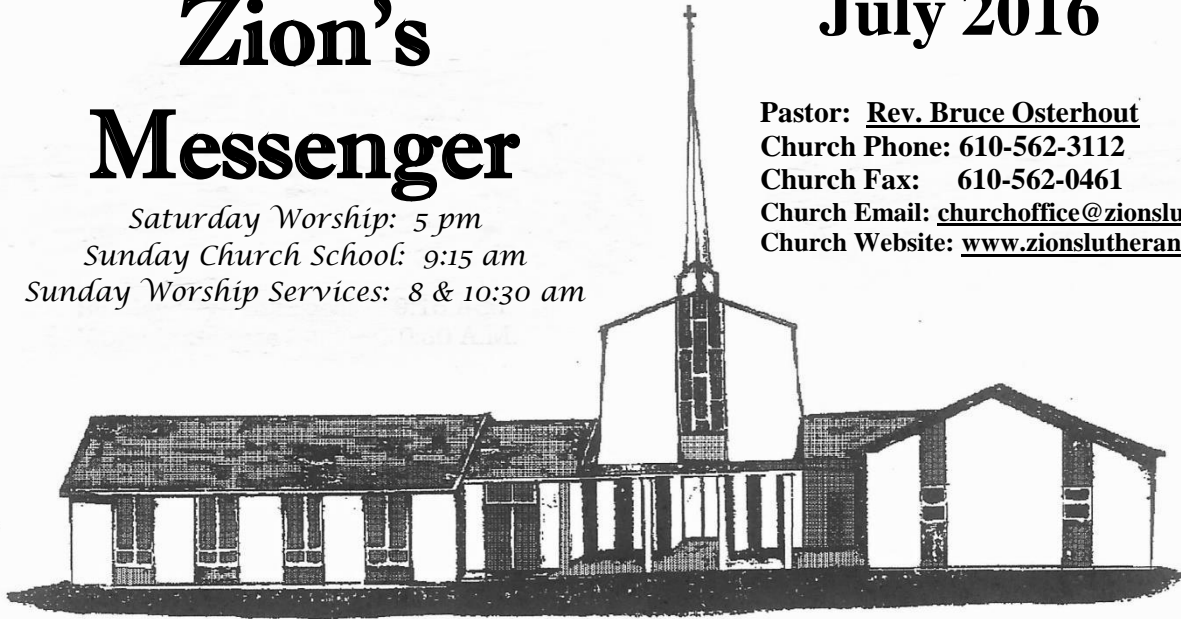
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Michael Lopez	2 Tami Taddeo Michael Potts
3 Susan Miller	4 Ruth Bensinger Daniel Schaeffer	5 Heather Mengel Lori Shaak	6 Adam Decker	7 Dean Heckman	8 Alice Brieske Russell Clark	9 Lee Gehringer Janet Schlegel
10 Dolores Arndt	11	12 David Seidel	13	14 Deborah Hoffert	15	16 Joyce Epting
17 Karen Clark Travis Hoshauer	18 Gloria Fisher*	19 Pastor Bruce Osterhout	20 Troy Epting John Smith	21	22 Katelyn Schumaker	23
24 Jocelyn Heckman Gary Wilhelm	25 Faye Miller Brian Moroney Kyle Schumaker	26	27 Kenneth Correll Richard Davis* Marilyn Hartman	28	29	30
31 Kasandra Brown Phares Fry Kyle Reitenauer David Smith					*shut in	

Zion's Messenger

Saturday Worship: 5 pm
Sunday Church School: 9:15 am
Sunday Worship Services: 8 & 10:30 am

July 2016

Pastor: Rev. Bruce Osterhout
Church Phone: 610-562-3112
Church Fax: 610-562-0461
Church Email: churchoffice@zionslutheran.org
Church Website: www.zionslutheran.org



Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church
354 Zion's Church Road, Shoemakersville, PA 9555

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 & Savior ✝ ✝ Honest & open communication ✝ ✝ Create and sustain healthy relationships ✝
✝ Share your 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 ✝

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

SYNOD NEWS

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA



Yes, we'll gather at the river!

On May 7, the Creation Care Task Force of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod sponsored a kayak and canoe trip down the Schuylkill River. 50 people from nine congregations around the Synod gathered along the river in Hamburg to connect with this historically significant body of water and live out our Baptismal calling to "care for the world God made."

Bishop Zeiser offered reflections on the river's importance to previous generations and encouraged the paddlers be open to how the trip would connect them to God. The Bishop then led a thanksgiving for Baptism at the water's edge just before the paddlers began their journey downriver to Leesport.

Those who remained behind on land sent the paddlers off with song and spent the rest of the morning reflecting on Genesis 1, playing games, and cleaning up trash along the river. It was an energizing day at the river, as we celebrated how God's gift of water sustains our life and vocation.

Bike for World Hunger



On Saturday, May 21, nearly one hundred participants of all ages – including spunky pups, Loki and Lucy – representing 19 NEPS congregations, were united for a single purpose as they biked, scooted, unicycled, jogged, and walked at the gorgeous Bob Rodale Cycling & Fitness Park in the Trexlertown area for the synod's 5th annual "Bike for World Hunger" event.

After receiving the official blessing from Bishop Zeiser, many wheels, feet, and hands headed for the macadam tracks inside the lush green fields, tall trees, and sprinkling of buttercups to start the trek of raising money to erase hunger for good.

Participants were especially motivated by the \$15,000 World Hunger challenge, a pledge from two generous individuals in our synod to match donations up to that amount collected by the time of Synod Assembly (June 17-18).

Many thanks to the World Hunger Task Force for organizing this event; to the Bishop for his tireless support; to those who raised monies through their dedicated efforts; to those whose hearts will be opened to give; and to all who will have a "wheelie" fun time joining us in the future.



Photos courtesy of Chip Bachman

IMAGINE YOURSELF...
in the world!
YOUNG ADULTS IN GLOBAL MISSION

Luke Swanson
Young Adult in Global Mission

Luke Swanson, a member of St. Andrew's, Easton, son of of Pastors Mark Swanson and Laura Csellak, has been called to serve as a Young Adult in Global Mission through the ELCA to serve in Argentina/Uruguay.

The program, for young adults between the ages of 21 and 29, allows for young Lutherans throughout the ELCA to be unleashed in the world, embracing and serving their neighbors through celebration of the Gospel, making God's story, our story.

Luke's experience will allow him to connect with our brothers and sisters in the United Evangelical Lutheran Church in Argentina and Uruguay, a companion church of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod.

He is asked to raise \$4000 as a commitment to the global mission of the church. Congregations and individuals are welcome to join in this commitment. If you are interested in being a part of this ministry, please contact Luke at lukeswanson9@gmail.com.

Anniversary Luncheon



The Rev. George P. Zacharda, Jr.

The Rev. Walton R. Horn

On Tuesday, May 24 the synod hosted a luncheon to celebrate major anniversaries of our rostered leaders. Two pastors celebrating the 50th anniversary of their ordination shared some remarks with the group. The Rev. Gilbert B. Furst, who retired in the Chicago area, submitted a video with his remarks.

Donate Online to Mission and Ministry

The synod has established an account with Vanco Payment Solutions to provide the opportunity to donate online. You can donate to Mission Support, the Witness and Service Grant Program, the Student Education Fund (for rostered leader support), and Youth Event Scholarships.

You can also donate to Disaster Relief, both on the domestic and international level; and you can donate to World Hunger. You can even donate to a project that you designate.

The "Donate" button appears at the top of the synod website. You can also use the QR code shown here. Try it out!



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