



ZION'S MESSENGER

JANUARY 2017 HAPPY NEW YEAR

FROM THE PASTOR...

Late December 2016 Dear Members of Zion's Lutheran Church,

You will receive this church newsletter right before the "big night". We hope to see you in worship at 4 p.m. Children and Family Service, 7 p.m. Communion Candlelight Service (with pre-service music by the Orche-Band) beginning at 6:30 p.m., and 10 p.m. Communion Candlelight Service. Please remember that our celebration of Christmas begins on Christmas Eve and ends on Friday, January 6, (Epiphany Day) thus the **12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS!** This year, please consider leaving your decorations up until then (in defiance of our culture which has had Christmas on display since October and takes it all down and discounts it on December 26)

Please remember on Christmas Day and New Year's Day, we will have one worship service at 9 a.m. No Sunday School will meet. We will return to our regular schedule on Sunday, January 8.

On Sunday, January 15, during Sunday School, all members of all ages are invited to "Share Your Passion" by bringing a collection, playing a board game or card game, demonstrating a skill, sharing some music, doing something interactive or by baking/cooking something to share. **This is a great way for our members to get to know each other better.** Sign up for a table or a space beginning on Sunday, January 1 or contact the Church Office. **All may come and hang out** that day and visit. Our Sunday School classes will meet in their class rooms and then tour the Social Hall together. (This event has no snow date)

Finally, our faith community gathers to take care of organizational business on **Sunday, January 22** (snow date January 29) at our Annual Congregation Meeting and Luncheon. Bring a dish to share that day. Plan to pick up an 2016 Annual Report on Sunday, January 8 or Sunday, January 15. Contact the Church Office if you would like one mailed to you.

As the new year of 2017 approaches with all of its opportunities and challenges, may God continue to guide our congregation into its 258th year.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Bruce

INSIDE THIS ISSUE: • January Responsibilities • Winter & Weather
• Food Pantry • Up Coming Events • Council Report

Volunteer Responsibilities for January

GREETERS

- 1 – 9:00 am. Richard & Donna Long
8- 8:00 am The Leone Family
8 – 10:30 am. Susan & Woody Lutz
15 - 8:00 am Venus Fioravanti & Rita Decker
15 – 10:30 am. Carolyn Hollenbach
22 - 8:00 am Carol & Gary Roethermel
22– 10:30 am Dan & Carolyn Geist
29 – 8:00 am Lois DeTurk
29 – 10:30 am Nelson & Ruth Ann Eyer

MAIL TEAM #3 Thursday January 26th

Michael Puglia, Mary & David Mengle

ACOLYTES

- 1 – 9:00 am. Jacob Fegley
8- 8:00 am Grant Doklan
8 – 10:30 am. Carielle Geist
15 - 8:00 am Hailey Denatala
15 – 10:30 am. Grant Doklan
22 - 8:00 am Jacob Fegley
22– 10:30 am Carielle Geist
29 – 8:00 am Hailey Denatala
29 – 10:30 am Alicia Gough

OPPORTUNITY HOUSE MEAL JAN. 20TH

Rita Decker – Captain, Venus Fioravanti
Mel Fioravanti

LECTORS

- 1 – 9:00 am. Jeanette Heckman
8- 8:00 am Katie Stefan
8 – 10:30 am. Susan Lutz
15 - 8:00 am Venus Fioravanti
15 – 10:30 am. Faye Heckman
22 - 8:00 am Rita Decker
22– 10:30 am Mark Price
29 – 8:00 am Venus Fioravanti
29 – 10:30 am Mark Dreibelbis

10:30 a.m. NURSERY ATTENDANTS

- 8 – Faye Heckman
15 – Eileen Puglia
22 – Ruth Ann Eyer
29 - Lori Palubinski



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.m.

Hey Facebookers who are Happy Quilt Knotters!

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

The January Food Item for The Hamburg Food Pantry is: **SOUP**

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



- **Pick up your daily devotional booklets for January-March 2017 when you come to worship.**
- **Please sign up to sponsor 2017 worship items, especially for January and February Sundays**
- **Thursday January 19th Zion Seniors Meet at Wyndcliffe Apt. in Hamburg 11 am till 1pm for games and homemade chili. If bad weather this is cancelled.**

Please pickup your 2017 offering envelopes when you come to worship. If you desire a set of envelopes, please contact the church office. Members are reminded that they can give on-line on a regular basis by setting up their giving using the links on the church website, www.zionslutheran.org. Using this safe and secure website reduces the church expenses and allows members to give in a timely fashion even when they cannot attend worship.

Do you want to help educate the children and youth of Zion's and help them grow in faith? Do you want to be involved in planning and running fun educational events at Zion's? The Christian Education Committee is looking for 1 or 2 new members to join us! If you are interested, please see a member of the Christian Education Committee for more information.

LIBRARY *a place for people*

Zion's Book Group meets
Thursday, January 19th @ 6:30 pm
Book of the Month "Small Great Things"
By Jodi Picoult

Up coming Events At Zion's

- **The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 22 following 10:30 a.m. worship. The 2017 operating budget will be discussed and adopted. Annual Reports will be ready to be picked up for member review beginning on Sunday, January 8. New Council members will be elected. If you are willing to serve as a Council member, please see President Jim Hirko or Pastor Bruce. The snow date is January 29.**

- No Sunday School classes Dec. 25 or Jan. 1
- **Sunday, January 8 – 2 p.m. ish!** Likely a return visit to Key quest/Laser Quest. The 2Karen/Alyssa/Karyna/Luke/Alicia group advances to "The Cellar" and shares their Buy One Get One Laser Quest coupons. \$20 per person would include the Laser Quest grudge match between the groups.
- **Sunday, January 15 @ 4 p.m.** Pizza and Planning for all youth and adults. Bring \$3 for Pizza Hut Pizzas.
- **Youth Retreat at Bear Creek Camp** **Registration** forms are now available from Pastor Bruce for the March 31-April 1-2, 2017 event. Join the fun in the woods!

"Faith at the Movies" discussions at The Hamburg Strand Theater. Come and watch a movie and then stay for the discussion.

Tuesday, Dec. 27th at 7 p.m.

"It's a Wonderful Life"

(Rescheduled by popular demand)

Admission is \$8.00 and includes a free small popcorn and small soda

Tuesday, January 24 @ 7 p.m.: "Pay It Forward"

**Like The Hamburg Strand on Facebook
Visit www.hamburgstrand.org**

Pre-movie discussion will begin 5 minutes before each movie. Attendees are invited to stay following the movie, to discuss what they learned about God and faith.

Movie attendees are invited to shop and eat in downtown Hamburg before the show.

The Planning Committee will meet following the discussion to select the movies for the next few months. Suggestions are welcome. These events are sponsored by the Northern Berks Ministerium (who will provide discussion leaders), the Reading Berks Conference of Churches (who will assist with publicity), and the Hamburg Strand theater. You may contact pastorbruce@zionslutheran.org for more information.



WINTER WEATHER AND WORSHIP

We cannot predict, but we can prepare. Weekday bad weather cancellation of programs, 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 including meetings are suspended for the day. This eliminates the need for multiple phone calls, and hopefully everyone will understand.

Sunday morning cancellations will be a decision made between the Pastor and some council members. However, Pastor has been known to occasionally sleep at the church on Saturday night, when bad weather approaches, so hopefully we will not have to cancel any service. For large groups, or for Sunday school and worship events, cancellations will be posted on Channel 69's website: www.wfmz.com (click on "Weather", then "School & Business Closings", then "Z" in the list index).

On TV it should be on the scrolling bar on the bottom of the TV screen.

Information will also be on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/ZionsChurch/> If you're not sure about a scheduled event, simply call the Church at 610-562-3112.

Zion's Lutheran is in need of several new volunteers to count offerings either after worship on Sunday or on Monday morning's beginning in 2017. A new head offering counter is also needed. Training is available and a training session would be held soon. Please step up and help out. Speak with Jim Hirko or Mitch Shestok if you have questions about volunteering. PB

CHURCH REPORTS



1-1-16	Beginning Balance	-\$8,842.42
	General Offering	\$187,090.16
	Special Offering	\$25,415.00
	Sub Total	\$202,662.74
	Current Expenses	\$184,184.65
11-30-16	Balance	\$18,478.09

COUNCIL CORNER

Council met on 13 December 2016. We began with a devotional reading of one of the ten poems written by Dietrich Bonhoeffer, entitled "Who Am I." He wrote it a month before his execution by the Nazis in 1945. It gave us cause to reflect on gaining a sense of satisfaction as we fulfill our true calling in this world and our relationship with God rather than seeking our identity and self-worth in our earthly accomplishments.

Great news we finished \$18,478.68 in the black at the end of November.

Thank you for your support of the ministry carried out here at Zion's and in our community.

Council took action to authorize our Treasurer to write a check for \$5,798.00 to Synod benevolence, fulfilling the motion passed at the Congregational Meeting in February. As a council we are proud of the work this congregation does in our local community and abroad. We here at Zion's are truly blessed in fulfilling God's will.

After a review of our copier use, we took action to reduce the price of the copier contract, bringing it in line toward our true use. In 2017 we will be in line for paying for what we historically have used rather than paying ahead for product we do not use.

We also reviewed and passed a proposed, reflective and responsible 2017 Budget that will be presented at the Annual Meeting in January.

We were pleased to take action on a recommendation from the Personnel Committee to hire Mr. Don Ryan as our Director of Music Ministry. The Personnel Committee was diligent in their combination of the Organist and Choir Director duties into one. Thank you Personnel Committee. Welcome aboard Director Ryan! We are blessed to have your talents to serve here at Zion's.

We reviewed a draft of a Prayer List request form that is a work in progress.

We are thankful to Pastor Bruce for involving several individuals and committees in the creation of this form streamlining our Prayer List while being sensitive to the needs and privacy of those on our list. Look forward to a congregation wide conversation concerning the Prayer List at our 29 January 2017, worship.

We reviewed a public notice from the US Army Corps of Engineers concerning an application for a permit to Key Development

Group for construction of three warehouse/light manufacturing buildings, associated truck/trailer storage areas and other infrastructure changes that will impact on our church property. We have asked the Property Committee to draft a letter addressed to the District Engineer expressing our concerns about the impact this construction will have on our congregational property, and requesting a public hearing. Council is asking for any member or resident of Perry Township to attend these public hearings for an opportunity to voice your opinion on this construction project. If you would like to see a copy of the Public Notice see Pastor Bruce or President Jim Hirko, they will make sure you get a copy.

We continue to ensure our drinking water is meeting DEP standards and we remain in compliance. We are moving forward with our Domestic Water Treatment Operations maintenance program, and are developing a process map and standard operating procedures.

This is to ensure an easy transition for those that come after us. We are blessed to have a member of the congregation that is certified in this area of expertise and are grateful for his assistance.

Council is sending out a BOLO (Be On the Look Out)... for twelve (12), one dozen, of our premium folding chairs. The ones with the thicker cushions and backs, our custodial staff has noticed that twelve are missing.

If they are stored or sitting in a dark place in your home after you had borrowed them Please! Kindly return those, no questions asked. If you need them to be picked up, please kindly contact the Church Office, your anonymity will be preserved and a scheduled pick will be offered.

Look forward to the 2016 Annual Report being available at the Church 08 January 2017. Please contact the church office if you need a copy mailed to your home. It is our prayer this report will be available on the church website this year too at, <http://zionslutheran.org/> Look for it there.

Our Youth Ministry raised nearly \$200.00 by selling baked goods after Sunday services to assist a congregational family in need this season. They also fulfilled our Angel Tree commitment shortfall by completing those unclaimed tickets left on the tree.

We are looking forward to our Boy Scout Troop replacing the dilapidated shed near the oil tank in the near future.

It is going to be a welcome improvement to our backyard landscape.

What a celebration we share in the success of our Northern Berks Community Garden they grew 8,224 pounds of produce with a total donation of 9,124 pound of produce.

See the details in this years Annual Report, it is so exciting. God bless our farmers!

Council will meet again 10 January 2017, continuing with the good works of Zion's.

Council Thanks you for your support, your loyalty, stewardship, and commitment. Without you we could not be a Lutheran Community "Unleashed" in recognition of our half of a millennium anniversary. God Bless you Martin Luther!

Our Annual Congregation Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, 22 January 2017, after the late service and a pot luck luncheon. Bring in your best dish to share with your fellow congregants before the meeting. (Inclement weather date is Sunday, 29 January 2017), plan on joining us for an opportunity to be involved in guiding the future of Zion's. From where we on Council sit today, the future... looks exciting and promising. Thanks be to God!

Special Thank You , Thoughts & Prayers

Thank you to everyone for the kind cards, phone calls and prayers given during my recovery.
Love, Eleanor Dietrich



AGENDA

ZION'S LUTHERAN CHURCH CONGREGATION MEETING SUNDAY, 22 JANUARY 2017 (Rain Date 29 January 2017)

- I. Opening Devotions
- II. Presentation of the Agenda
- III. Secretary's Report
- IV. Auditing Committee Report
- V. Treasurer's Report
- VI. 2017 Proposed Budget
- VII. Elections
 - A. 2016 Nominating Committee Report
 - B. Church Council
 - C. Nominating Committee
 - D. Audit Committee
- VIII. Pastor's Report
- IX. Committee(s) Reports - Updates and/or corrections
- X. New Business
 - A. Labyrinth presentation (Ruth Ann E.)
 - B.
 - C.
 - D.
- XI. Report of Election(s)
- XII. Installation of Council Members
- XIII. Adjournment

“Yes, Lord, we saw you hungry...(See Matthew 25:31-46)

A Summary Report of Zion's Lutheran Church

War on Poverty and Hunger

Locally:

Financial assistance is provided through the Northern Berks Ministerium Emergency Assistance Fund administered by the Hamburg Salvation Army. **Offerings from Lent and Advent worship services are given to this fund.** In 2016, The Ministerium provided the start -up monthly rent deposit for the new Hamburg Salvation Army Family Store which opened in August. Zion's Choir and Brass provided music for 2 hours in December 2016 at Cabela's while ringing the red kettle bells. (The Hamburg Salvation Army received more than \$40,000 in support in 2015 from the red kettles).

Opportunity House volunteers from Zion's provided meals on the 3rd Friday of each month in 2016, just part of the large network of church that provide meals 365 days a year on North 2nd street in Reading. **Find out more at www.opphouse.org**

Participants in Family Promise of Reading and Berks County stayed at Zion's for one week in May and one week in December 2016. Volunteers provided an evening meal, slept overnight, setting up and folding up cots for family members providing warm hospitality to local families in transition. **Find out more at www.familypromiseofberks.org**

The Northern Berks Food Pantry at Hamburg Middle School provides food for local residents on the fourth Tuesday evening of each month beginning at 5:30 p.m. Zion's members give food all year long, provided more than 75 Thanksgiving meal bags in November, and give volunteer support throughout the year.

The Northern Berks Community Garden located right on our church property. In 2016, from April to November, more than 4 tons of fresh vegetables were grown on the church property. Volunteers worked together on Monday mornings and Thursday evenings. Food was distributed to 8 Northern Berks pantries. **See a detailed report in the annual report.**

The Potato Project – Since November 2008, is a unique Berks County ministry that addresses local hunger issues, growing free food for neighbors in need, doing this all on donated land using volunteers. The Potato Project uses volunteers, like yourself, coming together to plant, tend, harvest, and help provide food to neighbors in the local community partnering with the Greater Berks Food Bank to distribute potatoes, sweet corn and carrots. Field corn is raised and harvested to help provide funding for operations.

Zion's members helped cut seed potatoes in the spring, donated land for field corn planting, harvested potatoes in September, the Zion's Cub Scouts bagged potatoes in October, and some of those potatoes were delivered to an Allentown Soup Kitchen, delivered to a food pantry in Schuylkill Haven, and delivered to a food pantry in Reading.

Find out more about The Potato Project at:

<http://IHartHarvest.dyndns.org> <http://sites.google.com/site/IHartHarvestInc>

Just Google IHartHarvest 484-648-0381 IHartHarvest@gmail.com

Donations of Land for Planting Help Build a Green Bean Harvest

Harvest Volunteers are Needed on the Weekends in September/October 2017

Walt Zawaski, Executive Director: 1892 Moselem Spring Road Hamburg, PA 19526

The Annual Meeting of Board of Directors will be **Saturday, January 28 from 10 a.m. to 12 Noon** at Becker's/St. Peter's Church, Molltown. All partners are welcome.

Statewide:

Lutheran Advocacy Ministry of Pennsylvania www.lutheranadvocacypa.org is the united Lutheran voice in Harrisburg, advocating for the needs of the poor, the elderly, and the environment in the state legislature. In Pennsylvania, there are 7 synods, over 1,000 congregations, 3 colleges, 2 seminaries, outdoor ministry organizations and social ministry organizations (like www.diakon.org) that work together to speak up for those who have no voice. Pastor Bruce serves as one of the 2 representatives from the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod on the LAMPA Policy Council. **The 2017 Lutheran Day at the Capitol will be on Monday, May 22 at Trinity Lutheran Church, Camp Hill.** Check the website above.

Globally:

Zion's Quilt Knotters meet twice a month to assemble quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Volunteers cut squares at home, sew them at home, then come together to assemble them at church. Volunteers then sew them at home. The quilts are shown to the congregation and blessed. The quilts are delivered to the Brethren Service Center warehouse located in New Windsor, Maryland through the joint partnership that is Church World Service. In 2016, more than 127 school kits were sewn and assembled as a Lenten project.

Dollars are given in offerings to support the ELCA World Hunger program reaching around the world to those in poverty.

Thank you's go out to:

+ **All those who helped decorate the church for Advent and Christmas.**

Volunteers are needed to undecorate on Thursday, January 5 at 5:30 p.m.

+ **Don Ryan, Steve Turner, members of Zion's Brass and Bells, and the Adult Choir** for all of the music (including 2 hours at Cabela's-Caroling) to all who **played in the Orche-Band** on Christmas Eve.

+ **All those who took Salvation Army Angels** off of the tree and bought gifts for others. These were distributed on Friday, Dec. 16.

+ **All those who assisted with Zion's hosting** of the Family Promise families from Dec. 18 - Dec. 24 and to Mitch Shestok for coordinating our effort.

+ **Erin Seidel for coordinating our Sunday School Christmas program,** On Sunday, December 11 and for all the Sunday school teachers.

+ **Dave Mengel and his truck for helping haul** food to the Hamburg Middle School pantry on Tuesday, December 20.

+ **To all who gave poinsettias** on Christmas Eve.

+ **To Sharon Doklan** for enabling the youth to reach out to a congregation family with some extra love. The youth baked and sold treats after worship to raise money.

+**To Veronica Heckman** for helping deliver holiday trays on December 18. **To Wanda Hoherchak and Eileen Puglia** for freshening the trays up. **To WELCA** for donating funds to help purchase the treats.

+ **To those who made soup** for the Northern Berks Ministerium Advent worship service (on December 1) and to Pastor Buzzard for covering so Pastor Bruce could perform Bill Albert's funeral.

+ **To all who donated blood** on December 15 and to the Shoey Lions Club for sponsoring the drive.

+ **To everyone who contributed to the life of Zion's in December, thank you!**

January Birthday Calendar 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Ellen Hartline Brenda Hartman	2 Carl Davis Rodney Reidenhour Jessica Visnosky	3 Kevin Gough	4 Alyssa Blandford	5 Taylor McCurdy Prent Steffy	6 Natalie Clark Doris Hoffman	7 Luke Mengel
8 Christine Miller Tiffany Reinhart	9 Dennis Hoffert David Ketner	10	11 Brett Grugan Joan Seidel Robert Seidel Jennifer Ulrich	12 Dorothy Brennan Ruth Hoppes Shawn Seidel	13 Brain Heffner David Mengle Barbara Seidel Barbara Shafer Alicia Pursell	14 Timothy Eyer
15	16 Paul Gruber	17 Raegan Kerr	18 Beckie Reinhart Drew Koller	19 Jerry Boltz Dianne Geschwindt	20 David Geschwindt	21 Mark Dreibelbis
22 Marguerite Hepner*	23 Lester Wessner	24 Madeline Seidel	25 Karyna Blandford Shirlene Epting Tyler Heffner	26 Emma Seidel	27 Dominic Leone Carol Schaeffer	28 Gary Rothermel
29 Carol Rothermel	30 Joyce Sechler	31	February	Shut In *	January Birthstone Garnet January Flower Carnation	

January Calendar of Events 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00 am Worship	2 office closed 7:00pm All Committee Head Mtg.	3 7:00pm A.A.	4 6:00 pm Adult Bible Study 7:15 pm Choir	5 7:00 Bells 8:00pm Brass	6	7 5:00pm Worship 7:00pm A.A.
8 8:00am Worship 9:15 S. School 10:30 am Worship Youth to Key Quest Wyomissing	9 office closed 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7:30pm Boy Scouts	10 9:00 am Knotters 7:00 pm Council Mtg. 7:00pm AA.	11 6:00 pm Adult Bible Study 7:15 pm Choir	12 7:00 Bells 8:00pm Brass	13	14 5:00pm Worship 7:00pm A.A.
15 8:00am Worship 9:15 S. School 10:30 am Worship	16 office closed <i>February Newsletter Deadline</i> 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7:30pm Boy Scouts	17 7:00 pm Council Mtg. 5:00pm Worship 7:00pm A.A.	18 6:00 pm Adult Bible Study 7:15 pm Choir	19 11:00 am Senior Adults at Wyndcliffe Apt. Hamburg 6:00pm Music & Worship Mtg. 6:30 pm Library Mtg. 7:00 Bells 8:00pm Brass	20 Opportunity House Meal	21 10 am – 3 pm Cub Scouts Pine Wood Derby 5:00pm Worship 7:00pm A.A.
22 8:00am Worship 9:15 S. School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Luncheon 1:00 pm Annual Mtg.	23 office closed 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7:30pm Boy Scouts	24 9:00am Knotters 7:00pm AA.	25 6:00 pm Adult Bible Study 7:15 pm Choir	26 Mail Team # 3 7:00 Bells 8:00pm Brass	27	28 5:00pm Worship 7:00pm A.A.
29 8:00am Worship 9:15 S. School 10:30 am Worship	30 office closed 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7:30pm Boy Scouts	31 7:00pm AA.	February 1 6:00 pm Adult Bible Study 7:15 pm Choir	2 7:00 Bells 8:00pm Brass	3	4 5:00pm Worship 7:00pm A.A.

ELCA Mission Builders



"Building Structures, Community, and Faith"

Mission Builders are people from all walks of life—carpenters and others who have an interest in building for the church, meeting fellow-Christians across the country, having fun, and helping others.

Working side-by-side with folks from a local congregation, mission builders help the congregation construct or improve a church building at significant cost savings.

On our territory, a number of years ago, Mission Builders helped the members of Holy Trinity, Dingmans Ferry construct their facility.

If you would like to learn more about this ministry of our church or are interesting in becoming a mission builder, check out their web site: <http://www.elcamissionbuilders.org>.

Update Congregational Officers for 2017

Please send the Congregational Officers Form to the synod office as soon as the information is available. It can be downloaded as either a Word document or a PDF file from the synod website under "Publications" and then "Documents, Forms, & Policies."

Tri-Congregational Worship



Three Northern Berks congregations joined together on Sunday, October 16, to share in Sunday School and in worship. The three congregations have gathered together before, and they are really getting the hang of it now!

More than 240 people attended the worship service held at Zion, Perry Township. Pastor Inge Williams, of Frieden's, Shartlesville, was the preacher; and Pastor Burl Latshaw, Interim Pastor at St. John, Hamburg was the Assisting Minister. Pastor Latshaw also taught an Adult Sunday School class about Martin Luther and the Reformation. More than 90 attended Sunday School classes including 23 catechetical age youth in grades 7 and 8. St. John's Youth Director, Lydia Beck, was thrilled to have that many young people together.

Zion's Brass and Zion's Bells played. More than 35 Adult Choir members sang a joint anthem led by Donald Ryan, Zion's Organist and Choir Director. During the Children's Message, the congregation sang all the verses of "We Are the Church Together."

More than 140 stayed for a robust lunch in the Zion's Fellowship Hall. Zion's provided the main dish (baked ziti) and the other congregations brought salads and desserts. It was an amazing spread that everyone thoroughly enjoyed.

Because of family roots and close community ties through the work of the Hamburg Cluster and the Northern Berks Ministerium, members are well acquainted with each other and with working together.

On March 31- April 2, 2017 the three congregations will share in their second annual Catechism Retreat at Bear Creek Camp with a theme "The 3 Great Days." Synod Congregations with up to 5 catechetical students are invited to join in that weekend, until the house is full!

Synod News is published monthly by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA
2354 Grove Road, Allentown PA 18109; 610-266-5101.
nepsinfo1988@gmail.com; www.godslove.org



Poinsettias



Flower Sponsors in December

Lois DeTurk & Katie Stefan – In Memory of Robert & Emily Marks

Shirley Sohon – In Memory of Harry Sohon

Gary & Linda Bowling – In Memory of Ernest & Ruth Fredrick

Gary & Linda Bowling – In Honor of the Gough Family

Carolyn Hollenbach – In Honor of Mother & Father

Faye Heckman – In Honor of Veronica and Brayden

Susan & Woodrow Lutz – In Honor of our children Tiffany and Matthew

Susan & Woodrow Lutz – In Honor of our grandchildren Samantha, Ashley and TJ

Susan & Woodrow Lutz – In Memory of our Parents

Dennis & Karen Heckman – In Honor of Andrea, Shelly, David and Rylee

David, Shelly & Rylee Strunk – In Memory of our dog, Jordan

Carissa & Christine Miller – In Memory of Elda Miller, Phyllis Bender and Pappy Driesbach

Pastors Bruce & Julie Osterhout – In Honor of Carl Grasham, Richard & Renee Osterhout

Irwin Levan – In Memory of Ella Mae Levan

Veronica and Brayden Heckman – In Honor of Oma Jeanette

Jeanette Heckman – In Memory of Glenn D. Heckman, In Memory of Francis & Irene Werley

Faye Smith – In Memory of Donald and my Mother Dorothy Sunday

Faye Smith – In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Elton Smith

Daniel, Carolyn & Carielle Geist – In Memory of our Grandparents Edwin & Bessie Geist, Andrew & Margret Skripek

Shirlene Epting – In Memory of Mark Epting

Mark & Janine Dreibelbis – In Memory of Mother Evelyn Hood

Mark & Janine Dreibelbis – In Memory of Father Jason Dreibelbis

“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 8:00am and 10:30am

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 - churchoffice@zionslutheran.org

Interim Organist and 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.

Regular Weekly Activities - Please Join In

Adult Choir Rehearsal: Wednesdays at 7:15 pm

Bells Rehearsal: Thursdays at 7 p.m. 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. January 19th 11:00 a.m. @ Wyndcliffe Apt. Hamburg

Zion’s Book Group: Meeting on January 19th @ 6:30 pm

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.

On the 4th Tuesdays from 5 -8 p.m., volunteers are always welcome at the Hamburg Middle School Pantry Distribution. **These are 2 great places to get some community service hours.**

Visit the Hamburg Salvation Army Family Store – Take Clothing Donations there - Volunteer

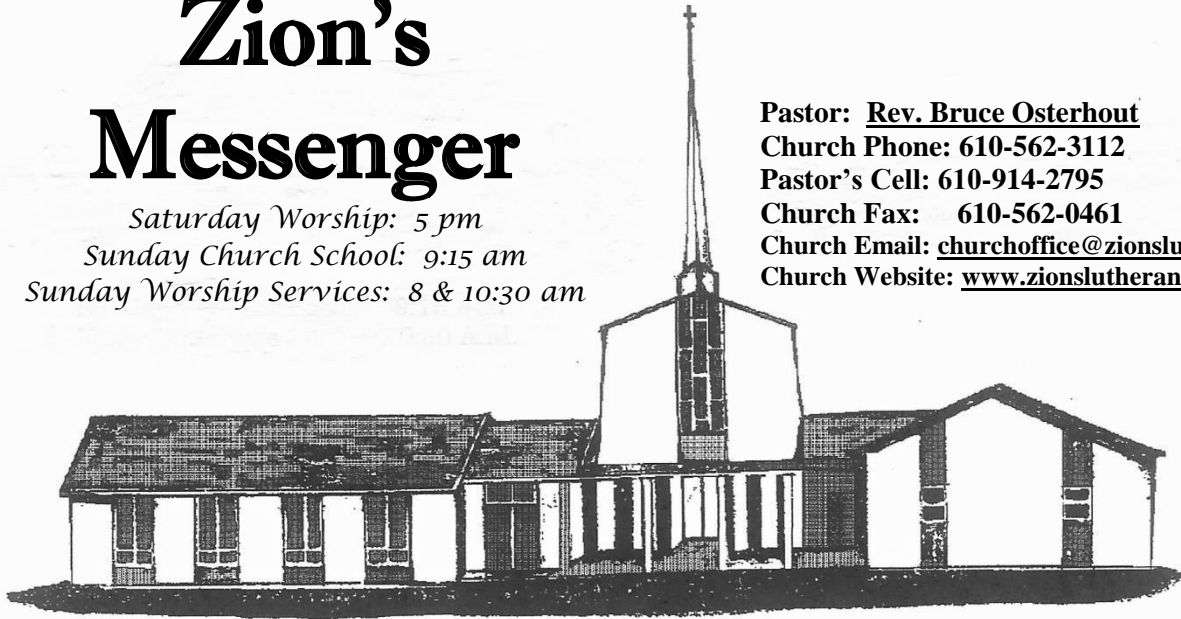
Recent Veterans can get help at Keystone Military Families, 331 Main St. Shoemakersville located behind and above Scott Ulrich Motorcycles. More info on Facebook

January 2017

Zion's Messenger

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

Pastor: Rev. Bruce Osterhout
Church Phone: 610-562-3112
Pastor's Cell: 610-914-2795
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 ✠

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Shoemakersville PA 19555