



ZION'S MESSENGER NOVEMBER 2017

FROM THE PASTOR... Dear Zion Friends,

In many ways, it is time to count our blessings. It's what we do every November as we head towards the Day of national Thanksgiving. It's what we do as 500 year - old Lutherans. It's what we do as baptized, faithful believers. We know where our blessings come from. I just want people to treat all others like they are "blessings" and not like we are the blessed and we have to bless those who are "not so blessed." That's kind of a belittling way to think, if you think about it. Come to worship on Sat/Sun November 4/5 as we read again the "Beatitudes" from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount.

Other Christians like to say that we Lutherans don't use the Bible, study the Bible, quote from the Bible enough. In truth, our liturgy (order of worship), our scripture readings, our hymns, and our worship prayers are part of the rich 1,980 plus year old tradition that is the Christian faith.

Someone recently shared a devotion at a committee meeting that I am passing onto you. This is some great daily wisdom for church leaders based on 1 Thessalonians 5:11-28. See if you think it is helpful for you in your daily walk of faith.

Verse	Reference	Suggested Application:
5:11	Build up each other.	Point out to someone a quality you appreciate in him or her.
5:12	Honor leaders	Look for ways to cooperate.
5:13	Show leaders great respect	Hold back your next critical comments about those in positions of responsibility. Say "thank you" to your leaders for their efforts.
5:14	Live in peace	Search for ways to get along with others.
5:14	Warn the lazy.	Challenge someone to join you in a project.
5:14	Encourage the timid.	Encourage those who are timid by reminding them of God's promises.
5:14	Help the weak	Support those who are weak by loving them and praying for them.
5:14	Be patient.	Think of a situation that tries your patience and plan ahead of time how you can stay calm.
5:15	Resist revenge.	Instead of planning to get even with those who mistreat you, do good to them.
5:16	Be joyful.	Remember that even in the midst of turmoil, God is in control.
5:17	Pray continually.	God is always with you. You talk. God will listen.
5:18	Give thanks.	Make a list of all the gifts God has given you, giving thanks to God for each.
5:19	Do not stifle the Holy Spirit.	As if you could anyway! Cooperate with the Spirit the next time he prompts you to participate in an Christian meeting or action.
5:20	Do not scoff at prophecies.	Receive God's Word from those who speak for him.
5:22	Avoid every kind of evil.	Avoid situations where you will be drawn into temptation.
5:23	Count on God's constant help.	Realize that the Christian life is to be lived not in our own strength but through God's power.

We grow in our faith when we study and hear God's Word as part of a faith community. Faith while practiced individually must be acted out corporately and communally. Faith which is isolated from others becomes pious, judgmental, and self-absorbed. (Remember the big "I" in the middle of the word sin.) "We" and "our" are words Lutheran Christians value. I hope to see you in the pews this month.

Blessings, Pastor Bruce

Volunteer Responsibilities for November

GREETERS

5-8:00 am Lois Deturk and Katie Stefan
5-10:30 am Tiffany Gruber
12-8:00 am Venus Fioravanti and Rita Decker
12-10:30 am Carl & Carolyn Hollenbach
19-8:00 am Leone Family
19-10:30 am David & Mary Mengle
22-7:00 pm Nelson & Ruth Ann Eyer (Thanksgiving Eve)
26-8:00 am Gary & Carol Rothermel
26-10:30 am Richard & Donna Long

ACOLYTES

5-8:00 am Usher Please Acolyte
5-10:30 am Carielle Geist
12-8:00 am Jacob Fegley
12-10:30 am Drew Koller
19-8:00 am Hailey Denatala
19-10:30 am Ty Seidel
22-7:00 pm Usher Please Acolyte
26-8:00am Hailey Denatala
26-10:30 am Morgan Gallagher

LECTORS

5-8:00 am Katie Stefan
5-10:30 am Mark Dreibelbis
12-8:00 am Rita Decker
12-10:30 am Mark Price
19-8:00 am Venus Fioravanti
19-10:30 am Faye Heckman
22-7:00 pm Janine Dreibelbis
26-8:00am Jeanette Heckman
26-10:30 am Janine Dreibelbis

Altar Guild: Kim Olszewski and Wanda Hoherchak

Bread Baker: Faye Smith

OPPORTUNITY HOUSE MEAL: Tina Blake, Mary Mengle, David Mengle, Gary Rothermel

MAIL TEAM Tuesday November 28th

"Being defeated is often only a temporary condition. Giving up is what makes it permanent."

❖ November Food Pantry Item:

Once again Zion's Lutheran will be preparing food bags for Northern Berks Food Pantry in honor of the Thanksgiving Season. Items needed for food bags: *Boxed Potatoes; Gravy (jar, can, or packet); cranberry sauce in can; 3 - 15 oz. cans of vegetables; and Jiffy muffin mix.* You may give more than one bag if you would like. If you would like to donate more items, please do so separately from the food bags. All bags are due by November 12th, 2017. Please place bags on the narthex shelves. Delivery to food pantry will be November 13th, by 9 a.m. Thank you



➤ **Sponsors needed for Sunday Bulletins, Reading Eagle, & Hamburg Item for the month of November & December. Come on in, pick a date, and send a special message!!**

Zion's Senior Adults

Meet Thursday, November 16th, at 11 a.m. Smokestack BBQ in Strasburg, Lancaster County is providing the meal of beef brisket and BBQ. Please bring fruit and desserts.

The group meets again on Thurs. Dec. 7th, (Pearl Harbor Day) when Zion's hosts the Ministerium Advent worship at 11:30 a.m. Come at 10:30 am for cards and games. This event features a soup buffet. Bring fruit and desserts. Soup makers needed.



Upcoming Events At Zion's.

➤ ZION'S LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN OF THE ELCA

ANNUAL BAZAAR

SAT. NOVEMBER 18th, 2017
9:00am - 1:00pm

LUNCH
BBQ - SOUP
FREE COFFEE

BAKED GOODS
BASKET RAFFLE - QUILT RAFFLE
FLEA MARKET - PLANTS
LOCAL VENDORS

Interested vendors should contact Wanda at
570-778-8403 to reserve a table. Tables are
\$10.00 and available on a first come basis.



Zion's WELCA Bazaar

Mark the date Saturday, November 18th, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for the annual WELCA Bazaar.

Ways for you to support this event are:

-bake something yummy for the baked goods table. In the past our customers have been quite fond of chocolate cake w peanut butter frosting, pineapple upside down cake, sticky buns, and breakfast type cakes.

-bake cookies. Past favorites are snickerdoodles, peanut butter, and choc. chip. Cookie containers will be available the end of October.

-donate ingredients for items being baked at the church.

-gather up your flea market items and bring them to the gold room the week of the Bazaar (NOT BEFORE) mornings 9-12 or 6-8 evenings. No clothing!


-donate basket raffle items.

-donate plants for the plant corner

-volunteer to help the day of the Bazaar for a few hours or the whole time.

-check out the queen size quilt in the narthex made by the Happy Knotters. Tickets available starting October 15th. Come, shop and eat. Meet your friends here! Remember your first cup of coffee is free!!

There are sign-up sheets for all of the above on the board in the narthex. Show your interest by signing up in all the appropriate places. You will help the mission of the WELCA.

Salvation Army Tree, 
**will be up by Sunday, November 5th, Angel
Tree gifts are due back by Sunday,
December 3rd. Please take an
Angel off the Tree.**

LIBRARY
a place for people

Zion's Book Club

November: Please pick up a book in the church library to read. We would like to encourage our church members to use our library.

December: **Refugee** by Alan Gratz- three children go on separate journeys seeking refuge.

There will not be any meetings in November or December. We will meet again on Thursday, January 18th, at 7:00pm in the church library.

**THERE ARE FREE National Geographic
BOOKS IN THE NARTHEX FOR YOU TO
LOOK AT. Please take one home.**

Library Shelves

Items added to the collection since last newsletter:

Ordinary Miracles by Rebekah Montgomery (the true stories of an extraordinary God who works in our everyday lives).

Rest by C.J. Lovik (What is the “rest” that Jesus proclaims in the book of Matthew as he beckons the weary and burdened to come to him?)

When God Is Silent by Charles R. Swindoll (Choosing to Trust in Life’s Trials).

Worship without Words by Patricia S Klein (the signs and symbols of our faith).

Who Does God Pray to? by Gerald H. Ihle (Trinity language complicates simple truth)

The Cross by Max Lucado (selected writings and images).

American Country Churches by Jill Caravan (a pictorial history).

Mother Teresa - Come Be My Light - edited and with commentary by Brian Kolodiejchuk, M.C. (the private writings of the “Saint of Calcutta”).

The Four Witnesses by Robin Griffith-Jones (the Rebel, the Rabbi, the Chronicler, and the Mystic and why the Gospels present strikingly different visions of Jesus).

Library volunteers meet on Wednesday November 1st and 15th at 1:30 P.M.

Note: Donation of 1,000 piece puzzles this year will be sold at the annual Bazaar. Our card table in the library can’t hold a puzzle that size, so in the future please store at home until Bazaar time. We do accept 500 or 300 piece puzzles. Thanks!



Please check with Church Office.

We may just have your lost item. (Children’s toys, hat, mug, jewelry) Just a reminder, lost and found items not claimed will be sold at the Bazaar flea market.



Garden News

We’re not done yet!

October is close to an end, and we are wrapping up our 4th garden season. We continue to harvest the rest of our cabbage, peppers, onions, butternut squash, and beets. So far this season, we have donated 5457 pounds of produce to local food pantries.

We will continue to work at least one night a week (Monday or Thursday pm at 5:30). Please listen for Sunday announcements, check the bulletin, or check Zion’s Facebook for updates. Please come out if you can, as we are trying to harvest the rest of our crops and clean up the Garden on our regular work nights ... and do it as fast as we can before it gets too dark!

As always, to receive phone/email notifications of our work day schedules, or weather cancellations, please contact Lori at 610-401-1186 or email us at communitygarden@zionslutheran.org and we’ll gladly put you on our volunteer email or phone list. Submitted by:

Eileen Puglia, NBCG Secretary

ADVANCE NOTICE – 2018 MISSION TRIPS BEING PLANNED now for April 8 - 15 to St. Vincent’s, in David, Kentucky to renovate homes. July 29- Aug 4 to Puerto Rico to aid in relief efforts with Lutheran congregations and Habitat for Humanity projects. More details soon for those of your who plan way ahead.

All Saints Sunday, November 5: Thoughts & Prayers

On Sunday, November 5th, we will remember in worship those who have gone before us in the faith and those who were baptized in the past year. Come and light a candle for your loved one during worship.



It's your birthday?

We can put it on our birthday calendar! If your birthday wasn't listed in our monthly newsletter's Birthday Calendar, and you would like it included, please contact Amanda in the Church office. Not sure? Just call or email Amanda and she will check it for you.

(office: 610-562-3112 or email: churchoffice@zionslutheran.org).

Thanks so much and enjoy your special day, whenever it is!

Please send a Thinking of You/Miss You card to:

Jack & Dottie Wertz, now residents at
Maiden Creek Place, Room 5
105 Dries Rd. Reading, Pa 19605



"REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR"

Zion's Women of The ELCA will once again be sponsoring a "Reverse Advent Calendar" to benefit "Safe Berks" (Berks Women in Crisis). Each participant/family will be provided a container to place items in from "Safe Berks" wish list. This year an Advent devotional booklet will be included. As you add an item to the container each day during Advent, 12/1-12/25, participants are encouraged to read the corresponding daily devotion. An Advent calendar and wish list will also be distributed with the container.

Please add your name and phone number to the sign-up sheet posted on the narthex bulletin board no later than November 4th. Containers will be distributed beginning 11/18. Each container will be numbered for tracking purposes. Donation containers should be returned to Zion's no later than January 6, 2018.

The items (25) can be purchased at the local dollar stores. Last year a total of 36 containers were collected. WELCA would like to increase this number for 2017. Thank you for supporting this community outreach project!

WISH LIST FOR THE "REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR" TO BENEFIT "SAFE BERKS"

Gloves
Scarves
Bath items/soaps/lotions
Chapstick
Hand soap
Hand sanitizer
Over-the-counter medications (adult/children)
Toiletries
Deodorant
Toothbrushes
Toothpaste
Hair brushes
Shampoo/conditioner
Make-up
Nail polish
Band-AIDS
Women's sanitary products
Tissues
Paper towels
Plastic drinking cups
Plastic cereal bowls
Spoons/forks
Calendar books
Notebooks
Journals
Sponges
Items used on a daily basis

*"Our eyes are where they are for seeing opportunities ahead-
not for looking at all of our mistakes behind."*



Faith Around Town

Faith at the Movies

Faith at the Movies – “Taking Chance.” Tuesday, November 28th, 7 p.m. At The Hamburg Strand Theater. Come and watch a movie and then stay for the discussion. **All Veterans Receive Free Admission. This movie will be shown in partnership with the Hamburg Wagner-Good VFW Post 216.** Non Veterans admission is \$10 per person includes a small soda and popcorn. 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. **On Oct. 24, 75 people attended “An Idea that Changed the World” and gave offering of \$430** for the Strand Capital Improvement Fund, with the anonymous donor match, \$860 was raised!

Volunteer Reading Tutors needed for Ready.Set.READ! Program Help make a difference in a child’s life! Volunteers are needed to tutor 2nd grade students who are struggling with reading at Perry Elementary Wednesdays from 8:00 – 9:00 AM, Tilden Elementary Wednesdays from 3:30 – 4:30 PM and Schuylkill Valley Elementary Thursdays from 8:00 – 9:00 AM. No previous teaching experience is required. This opportunity is for anyone interested in volunteering weekly during the 2017-2018 school year. Current background clearances are required prior to assignment. Please contact Darby Wiekrykas at United Way 610-685-4574 or darbyw@uwberks.org

Please help the Hurricane Harvey-Irma and Marias Victims. Visit www.LDR.org or use a pew envelope. A Mission Trip to Puerto Rico to help rebuild is being talked about for the first time on Wed. Oct. 25. Stay tuned if you are interested. Thank you.

Free Veterans Spaghetti Dinner for all Veterans and their Family Saturday, November 4th, 2017 4 – 5:30 p.m. at St. Luke’s Church in Shoemakersville. To make a reservation please call 610-562-4152

CATACLISMIC CHANGES

1517 set changes in motion that quite literally altered the politics, culture, and theology of the western world. These changes still affect our lives and faith 500 years later.

Nailing a notice of debate topics to the cathedral door was not in itself an unusual happening. Ideas would be written out in Latin and posted where many academics would see and read them. But this time, some of the university students recognized the importance of what was being said, translated them into the German vernacular, and within weeks they were circulating in cities and villages throughout the German speaking world!

The REFORMATION has rightly been called the “Rediscovery of the Bible”. In a time when even many priests could not or did not read the Bible for themselves, some scholars were studying not only the writings of former Christian theologians and the Papal encyclicals, but the Bible itself. On the foundation already laid by Jon Huss and John Wycliffe, the German reformers examined both Old and New Testaments in depth. From this FIVE PRIMARY TRUTHS emerged that Protestants still hold.

1. SOLA SCRIPTURA = Scripture Alone: God’s Holy inspired word, the Bible is the source for all doctrine. Its authority supersedes that of church authorities and traditions!

2. SOLA FIDE = Faith Alone: Salvation comes to us by our faith in Christ alone and is not dependent on deeds, even baptism. Baptism, attendance in worship, good deeds, and stewardship are to be the result of our faith. Romans 2:28

3. SOLA GRATIA = By Grace Alone: Even our faith is dependent on God’s magnificent all-complete grace. Philippians 2:13

4. SOLA CHRISTUS = Christ Alone: There is no other path to salvation and Heaven but the second person of the Trinity, Jesus Christ, who in His crucifixion paid the full price of our redemption! John 14:6; II Corinthians 5:21

5. SOLI DEO GLORIA = Glory to God Alone: God alone deserves all our earthly praise and honor. Neither our accomplishments nor those of other mortals should be lifted up as awesome or holy. While we are to respect earthly authority, glory and praise is to be given only to GOD.



Matthew 5:16; I Corinthians 1:30; I Peter 4:11 These FIVE are the foundation of our Protestant Churches, World Missions, and Democracy. Truly concepts that changed the world.

Labyrinth Update

First I want to share my feelings and thoughts about this whole project with you. I felt this was a once in a “lifetime” experience for me to help plan, financially & physically support the building of a unique and beautiful outdoor labyrinth. In the process, I met up with a family I knew as a kid going to Sunday school and worship at our sister church. Joey Dalton’s grandmother Barbara Stump, is of my generation and attended the Union Church too. Funny how when you have the same values, you often meet up with folks from your past. It was my pleasure and joy to work with all the volunteers that helped with the labyrinth from the beginning up to this point!

The Labyrinth was completed on Sunday, Oct. 15 at about 3:00 P.M. We celebrated with an ice cream cake with the words “Thank You” written on, which was the only food item Joey requested to have at the end of the building project. It took 262 ¼ hours of volunteer work just for the construction, that doesn’t include all the planning, meetings, contacts, sleepless nights, etc. We had 19 volunteers from the scout troop, which includes some of their family members, 12 volunteers from our church membership and 1 volunteer that’s both – Logan Heffner, which brings the total volunteers to 32. The total experience during construction was so encouraging from the commitment, enthusiasm, positive attitudes and hard work everyone displayed.

Joey’s family is so proud of his accomplishment and so are we. His contact with a former Scout Master and business man, Bryn Kolbe from Shoemakersville, was a real blessing! We were also blessed with support from the congregation. We’ve received 8 engraved brick forms and I was asked for 8 more forms several weeks ago. Our goal is to sell 30 bricks to help with our phase two plans for the labyrinth, which will include benches, a solar water fountain, scripture markers throughout the labyrinth, a labyrinth sign by the road, shrubbery and a container to hold our pamphlets to help educate and inspire visitors – walkers of the labyrinth! **Next committee meeting is November 13 at 6:30 p.m.**

Thanks to everyone who helped in a big or small way! Ruth Ann Eyer



Church Reports

Treasures Report

1-1-17 Beginning Balance	\$20,301.89
General Offering	\$142,055.24
Special Offering	\$17,604.11
Sub-Total	\$179,961.24
Current Expenses	\$161,184.46
Balance	\$18,776.78
9-30-17	

Council Corner

October 10, 2017

At the October Council meeting, Hailey Denatala, a candidate for confirmation, read her essay “Why am I a Christian”. Four confirmands were approved for confirmation: Hailey Denatala, Jacob Fegley, Grant Doklan, and Carielle Geist. The three who have not read their essays to Council will read them at the November meeting.

A request by Ruth Ann Eyer was made for \$500 from memorial funds to be used for the Labyrinth. Council approved using \$480 from Ella Adam’s memorial fund along with remaining money from the memorial funds of Margaret Gehringer, Milton Gehringer, Lester Fink, and Carl Hepner to bring the total to \$500.

Training has begun for a Congregational Care Team. Team members include Richard Long, Donna Long, Mike Schwenk, Nicole Schwenk, Lori Palubinski, Bill Deibler, and Lucille Gough.

Budget Committee will meet October 25.
Contact Joe Leone with any concerns.

The Bazaar is November 18, 2017. Cookie Baking will begin the week before the bazaar. Volunteers are needed. Please sign up.

A committee has been formed to begin the process of creating a new church directory with Life Touch.

There are a number of openings for new Council members starting with the new term in February. If you are interested, contact Wanda Hoherchak.

If your name has not appeared on the monthly birthday calendar in the newsletter and you would like it to appear, please contact Amanda in the church office to let her know.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dawn O'Brien



SNOW SHOVELING VOLUNTEERS

The Property Committee is seeking volunteers to help with snow shoveling this winter. A sign-up sheet for volunteers will be posted on the bulletin board in mid-November. If you are interested in helping, please sign the sheet for the week(s) 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. Thank you.

Don't forget...

Please fill out a communion card at least once a year. Doing so helps us to keep updated membership records. Thanks so much!

A form titled "HOLY COMMUNION RECORD" with a purple and white cross icon on the left. The form contains fields for "Envelope no.", "Date", "Name", "Address", "Desire pastor to call" (checkbox), "I am a visitor" (checkbox), "Home congregation", and "Address". A small note at the bottom reads "Please return this card as a record of your Communion".

“Whatever you did for the least of mine, you did for me.”

Have you been blessed with the gift of hospitality? Do you enjoy hosting and planning meals for special events? Then please take a little time to explore the possibility that God is calling you to use those gifts in His service.

Opportunity House will be contacting Zion's soon to set up their volunteer meal schedule for 2018. If we are to continue our ministry of providing and serving meals on a monthly basis, **additional help is needed, but most especially captains.**

Captains plan the meal and oversee its preparation, delivery and service. A team of 3 or 4 assist with carrying out these functions.

If you think this is a role you could fill but have questions or would like more information before committing, please feel free to contact Rita Decker by phone at 610-562-5479 or email at rld543@verizon.net. If Rita is not immediately available, please leave a message and she will get back to you at the first opportunity.



About Zion's new Congregational Care Team 6 of us, (Richard and Donna Long, Mike and Nicole Schwenk, Lori Palubinski, and Pastor Bruce) enjoyed an enriching retreat on Friday, October 6th, at 8 p.m. to Saturday, Oct. 7th, at 7:30 p.m. at the Kenbrook Bible Camp in Lebanon. We learned a lot and grew closer in our relationships. We are glad that Bill Deibler and Lucille Gough will also be serving on our team. We have scheduled 2 meetings going forward: Thurs. Oct. 26th, at 6-8 p.m. and Thursday, November 16th, at 6-8 p.m. We will continue to work at getting to know each other at these 2 meetings. Sue Mangold will be our professional consultant. **Zion's Lutheran Church members may request that this Congregational Care Team accompany them on their life's journey.** Members may do this by speaking with the Pastor about it. Brochures about the team's work are available.

Help a child learn to read – Help a child improve their reading skills – On Wednesdays you can make a difference in the life of a child! 5 years ago, the United Way of Berks began the initiative called **readysetreaddberks.org** to recruit and train volunteers to help raise the reading level of Berks County's second graders. In this current school year, more than 400 volunteers participate at many of the elementary schools in the county. You could volunteer to work at the school nearest you. You read to a child one on one for about 45 minutes with the support and presence of the school's reading specialist. **If you would like to learn more about doing this,** you may speak with Chris Brennan, Cheri Kunkle, and Pastor Bruce who volunteer at Perry Elementary on Wednesdays from 8:30-9:15am. Lori Smith volunteers at Tilden Elementary on Wednesdays at from 3:30-4:30pm. Clearances are required. Check out the website above for more information.

Doesn't the new labyrinth look great? Have you walked it yet? Troop 163 led by Joey Dalton with the help of his family and some church members did a great job of installing it. You can still give an engraved brick for the Labyrinth in honor of or in memory of a loved one! The committee will work together to make plans for landscaping, an entrance path, and signage over the winter.

About December's Sunday School Christmas program get your children/grandchildren involved in it! **First rehearsal is set for Sunday, Dec. 3 after lunch (about 12:30).** Second rehearsal is Sat. Dec. 9 at 9:30 a.m. Program is Sunday, Dec. 10 at 10:30 a.m. Bring jars of baby food and toddler snacks for Mary's Shelter as an offering on December 10th.

On Christmas Eve morning, there will be one worship service at 9 a.m. and no Sunday School that day. Regular evening schedule: 4 pm., 7pm, and 10 pm



LifeChoice moved its' office in the past year from Route 61/Zion's Church Rd. office building to 1001 James Drive, Suite B-34, Leesport, Pa 19533 (off Route 183) **and changed its' name to Compassus** (compassus.com). I had the opportunity to reconnect with Ian Keal and Pastor Susan Horst, both who work with the organization. On Tuesday, Oct. 24, Compassus held a continuing education lecture in the Zion's Fellowship Hall which I attended. **Compassus is a nationwide network of community based hospice and palliative care services.** Founded in 2006 with roots back to 1979, when it served communities when hospice care was in its infancy. Reach Tom Maggiaro, Hospice Consultant at 610-334-1934 or at Thomas.Maggiaro@compassus.com. **I commend them to you.** If you or a loved one are grieving, look at whatsyourgrief.com and <http://courses.mindfulnessandgrief.com/p/mindfulness-grief/> (use Coupon Code COMPASSUS17 for access) Pastor Bruce

As the holiday season approaches, those who are grieving need to remember that life will be different but doesn't have to be awful. Here are some helps: 1. Manage your expectations. Yes, life will be different this year without your loved one. 2. Keep your body healthy. Try to stay healthy by managing your sleep, your water intake, your meals, and your exercise. 3. Practice some self-compassion: a. Self-kindness. b. Common Humanity and c. Mindfulness 4. Think about what reminds you of your loved one. Try turning a tradition into a ritual. Hand down a tradition to the next generation. Make a new tradition. Maybe don't do it at all this year. 5. Make choices that help you cope. 6. Remember that it is okay to not do some activities. 7. Watch your intake of alcohol which may sharpen your feelings of grief and loss. 8. Think about how you personally make meaningful experiences in your life. What matters most to you? 9. Seek out your friends and your church family for help and guidance. 10. Pray. Walk Zion's new labyrinth as you think about your life's journey. 11. Practice some meditation techniques. 12. Do a daily devotion. 13. Take a walk in the cool air. 14. Call the Pastor. 15. Call an old friend. 16. Help serve a meal for those less fortunate like Fri. Dec. 15th, @ Opportunity House. 17. Do something for someone else. 18. Remember that God loves you!

Zion Lutheran's native son, Pastor Aaron Decker, will be our Guest Pastor on December 30/31, while Pastor Bruce is on vacation. Aaron will lead all 3 weekends worship services. He will lead the Adult Sunday School class that day. The topic will be announced. For all who helped nurture, Aaron in his faith, please come that day to reconnect with him.



Come help us celebrate the joy of the season outside Cabelas on Saturday, December 16th, from 2-4 p.m. as Zion's Adult Choir and Brass entertain the shoppers with Christmas music while the Salvation Army Bell rings! Come and join in the fun! Sign up to help ring the bell that day! **You can also sign up to "ring the bell"** at the Redner's Market in Leesport and Hamburg, at Walmart in Hamburg and at Boyer's in Bernville. This is a major source of income for the Hamburg Salvation Army's work in our community. **Call 610-562-3576 and ask for Deb Faust or email her at dfaust@use.salvationarmy.org or you can sign up on-line @ <http://www.timetosignup.com/hamburgredkettle>.** Doing this can get you in the holiday spirit!



November Birthday Calendar 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Vernie Noecker Elaine Schroeder	2 April Reitenauer	3 Jeanette Heckman	4
5 Jade Heckman Donna Miller	6 Paul Weidner	7 Tiffany Gruber Bradley Clark Rylee Strunk	8	9 William Heckman, Jr. Kevin Koehn	10 Lea Moyer Kelly Troutman	11 Morgan Delong
12 Karen Mengel	13	14	15 Allen Daub	16 Nancy Dusko Dorothy Heckman Alison Sunday	17 Paul Heckman Dean Sunday	18 Faye Heckman
19 Tracy Pond Faye Smith	20	21	22 Kimberly Olszewski	23  Happy Thanksgiving	24 Karen Blandford Bradley Wessner	25 Linda Youse
26 Janelle Kerr	27 Brody Driesbach	28 Cleta Borkey	29	30 William Bensinger, Jr.	*shut ins	

November Calendar of Events 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD			1 6:15 pm Adult Bible Stud 7:15pm Choir	2 7:00pm Bells/8:00pm Brass	3	4 Deadline to Sign-up for Reverse Advent Calendar 5:00 pm Worship 7:00pm A.A.
5 All Saints Sunday 8:00am Worship 9:15am S.School 10:30am Worship Early a.m. Reset Clocks 	6 Office Closed 7:00pm All Committee Head Mtg 6:30pm Cub Scouts 7:30pm Boy Scouts	7 7:00pm AA.- AL-Anon	8 6:15 pm Adult Bible Study 7:15pm Choir	9 9:00am Cemetery Mtg Windsor Castle 7:00pm Bells/8:00pm Brass	10	11 5:00 pm Worship 7:00pm A.A.
12 8:00am Worship 9:15am S.School 10:30am Worship Hamburg Food Pantry Thanksgiving Bags Due	13 Office Open <i>December Newsletter Deadline</i> 6:30pm Labyrinth Meeting 6:30pm Cub Scouts 7:30pm Boy Scouts	14 9-11 Knotters 7:00pm Council Mtg. 7:00pm AA.- AL-Anon Hamburg Food Pantry Zions Volunteer Night	15 6:15 pm Adult Bible Study 7:15pm Choir	16 Office Closed 11:00am Adult Seniors 1-3pm Children of King w/ Vernie 7:00pm Property Comm. Mtg. 7:00pm Bells/8:00pm Brass	17 Office Closed Opportunity House Meal served	18 <u>Annual Bazaar</u> <u>9-1</u> 5:00pm Worship 7:00pm A.A.
19 8:00am Worship 9:15am S. School 10:30 am Worship	20 Office Closed 6:30pm Cub Scouts 7:30pm Boy Scouts	21 7:00pm AA.-AL-Anon	22 7:00 pm Thanksgiving Eve. Worship	23 Thanksgiving Day Office Closed HAPPY THANKSGIVING!  7:00pm Bells/8:00pm Brass	24 Office Open 10-2	25 5:00 pm Worship 7:00pm A.A.
26 Christ the King Sunday 8:00am Worship 9:15am S.School 10:30am Worship December 3 12:30 SunSchool Rehearsal w/Lunch	27 Office Open 6: 6:30pm Cub Scouts 7:30pm Boy Scouts	28 Mail Team #1 9-11 Knotters 7:00 pm Faith at the Movies Hamburg Strand "Taking Chance" <u>All Veterans receive Free Admission</u> 7:00pm AA.-AL-Anon	29 6:15 pm Adult Bible Study 7:15pm Choir	30 7:00pm Bells/8:00 p.m. Brass	1 December	2 5:00pm Worship 7:00pm AA-AL-Anon

The Northern Berks Ministerium's "Faith at the Movies" Series
@ The Hamburg Strand Theater

In honor of Veteran's Day
presents

Tuesday, November 28
at 7 p.m.

"Taking Chance"

Lt. Colonel Michael Strobl, a volunteer military escort accompanies the body of Lance Corporal Chance Phelps to his hometown in Wyoming.

Released in January, 2009 and starring actor Kevin Bacon.

All Veterans Receive Free Admission. This movie will be shown in partnership with the Hamburg Wagner-Good VFW Post 216

\$ 10 per person includes a small soda and popcorn and helps us pay for the veterans to attend for free!

Invite a veteran to attend this movie with you.

The Hamburg Strand is open for movies each weekend on Thursday and Monday at 7 p.m. and on Saturday and Sundays at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Like The Hamburg Strand on Facebook. **Sign up for the EBLAST weekly email of www.readingberkschurches.org to receive information about our movies.** \$1 from each ticket benefits the Northern Berks Ministerium's Emergency Assistance Fund managed by the Hamburg Salvation A. \$1 benefits the Reading Berks Conference of Churches for its help with publicity.

Tuesday, December 26 at 7 p.m. Come see "It's a Wonderful Life!"



THE SALVATION ARMY
SERVICE EXTENSION DEPARTMENT
HAMBURG SERVICE CENTER
700 S. FOURTH STREET, SUITE C
HAMBURG, PA 19526
(610) 562-8440

The Salvation Army Christmas Angel Tree Volunteer Appeal 2017

The Salvation Army Hamburg Service Center Angel Tree Program is a wonderful program to provide Christmas gifts for low income families with children and gifts for senior citizens aged 60 plus living on a fixed income.

2 weeks of sorting, packing and preparation is needed to get this all together for the kids & senior citizens before we distribute on Friday, December 15 2017

Most volunteers usually commit to 2 or 4 hours at a time per day, others work a whole day from 9am to 4 pm and some of our volunteers do it just 1 day and others commit to 3 or more days, it's up to the individual or group. This process takes 2 weeks at The Hamburg Field House to get it all together and make it happen for the neediest in our communities.

Day 1- Monday, December 4, 2017 – 8:00 am to 4 pm at the Hamburg Field House. It's our busiest day, Angel Tree gifts & food are picked up, unloading the gifts from trailers , setting up tables, making & labeling boxes and the sorting of gifts begins

Days 2 thru 5 - December 5, 2017 thru December 8, 2017- 8:30 am to 4 pm at the Hamburg Field House -volunteers needed to sort gifts

Day 6 – Monday, December 11, 2017 – 8:30 am to 4 pm at the Hamburg Field House, we pick up any remaining Angel Tree gifts and continue sorting gifts

Days 7 thru 9 - December 12 thru December 14, 2017 – 8:30 am to 4 pm at the Hamburg Field House Final preparations, finish up sorting gift8:30 am to 4 pm at the Hamburg Field House s , organizing give away tables and getting everything in order for the Big Distribution on Friday.

Day 10 – Final Day - Friday, December 15, 2017 from 1 pm to 6 pm at the Hamburg Field House, the Distribution of the Angel Tree gifts. Volunteers needed to help with distribution of gifts and with tear down and clean up. Volunteers arrive by 12 noon and have lunch & fellowship before the distribution begins at 1pm

It's a lot of hard work but in the end it is very rewarding, knowing that some child or senior citizen will have a wonderful Christmas Holiday thanks to the generosity, kindness and time of others.

Anyone that is interested in volunteering, you may contact me at 610-562-3576 until December 1, 2017, than call or text 484-650-2161 from December 4, 2017to December 15, 2017.

Blessings, Cathy Correll,
Christmas Angel Tree Coordinator

SYNOD NEWS

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA



Our synod has given \$1,065,309 in support of this Campaign. We celebrate that nearly 81% have given to at least one of the priorities of the campaign. With a bit more effort we can reach the goal of 100% congregation participation established by Synod Assembly.

You can contact Guy Ehler, Synod Campaign Coordinator, at guy.ehler@rcn.com for information about your congregation's record.

As we complete the 4th year and enter the final year of the Campaign in 2018, 52 of our 268 congregations have yet to contribute. Suggested milestones for meeting the goal of 100% are:

- 13 more congregation contribute by the end of this fiscal year (January 31, 2018),
- 13 more before April 30,
- 13 by September 30,
- and the final 13 before the end of the Campaign in January 2019.

The Campaign Priority for 2018 is "Leadership" which includes the ELCA Fund for Leaders, and Youth and Young Adults. The youth and young adults are the future of our churches. Wouldn't this be a great priority for your congregation to support next year?

Good Shepherd, Easton Summer Youth Program



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Wilson Borough (Easton, PA) hosted a Summer Youth Program, a free summer-long program for elementary age children. The program was conceived by Pastor Michael Reist of Good Shepherd. Pastor Becca Middeke-Conlin of St. Paul's, Southside Easton served as the Program's Director.

Pr. Becca oversaw a staff of four in addition to several volunteers. Over 40 children participated throughout the summer with an average of 20 children a day. With donations through Thrivent Action Team Grants, a Synod Grant, and donations from Good Shepherd and other local congregations the program was able to provide breakfast, snack and lunch to the children each day.

During the program, the children participated in a variety of activities, thanks to congregation members and local organizations. Through 4H they made messy science experiments including homemade bouncy balls and slime. They learned where food comes from and how to cook thanks to the Easton Hunger Coalition.

They made a variety of crafts, learned about different cultures, read to therapy dogs, met a variety of animals, and engaged in many more activities. The children also learned about saving money as they watched their money add up this summer through a collection for God's Global Barnyard.

Talking About Racism

ELCA SOCIAL STATEMENT

A November 2015 news release from the ELCA stated, "As racism remains an enduring crisis in the United States, the Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton, presiding bishop of the ELCA, is continuing her call... to address [racism's] complexity and implications..."

Here is a helpful resource for congregations, small groups, and youth groups to examine more closely these complexities and implications. What resources are you using? Please share them on the synod Facebook page.

As a starting place for conversations about racism, check out the ELCA social statement "Freed in Christ: Race, Ethnicity, and Culture" at <http://www.elca.org/Faith/Faith-and-Society/Social-Statements/Race-Ethnicity-and-Culture>.

This statement expresses the ELCA's calling to celebrate culture and ethnicity. And it commits the ELCA to confront racism; to engage in public leadership, witness and deliberation on these matters; and to advocate for justice and fairness for all people.

The statement is grounded in the conviction that the church has been gathered together in the joyful freedom of the reign of God as announced by and embodied in Jesus. That reign has not yet come in its fullness, but the message of God's "Yes" to the world breaks down all dividing walls as we live into that promise. A study guide accompanies the social statement.

Nigerian Refugees Find a Home in West Berks



On June 9, God placed a Nigerian family in the hands of the West Berks Mission District. That Friday afternoon, the Johnson family (Tola, Abigail and their 3 children ages 4, 6 and 8) was released from the family detention center in Bern Township and dropped off at the bus terminal in Reading with tickets to NYC. Luckily their attorneys were notified; and after a bit of research, it was determined there was not an appropriate living plan for them in NYC.

A network of volunteers from the Greater Reading Immigration Project and the West Berks Mission District was contacted. The family was placed in a hotel for the weekend, and a host family came forward to offer housing to them until August. Since then there has been an amazing outpouring of support from individuals and faith communities!

Thanks to the kindness of strangers, the Johnsons moved into an apartment at the end of July. Six-months rent and security deposit needed to be paid up front. To date more than \$15,000 has been donated with more promised! All the furnishings and household items have been collected from generous folks sharing from their abundance.

This has been an incredible opportunity to experience what a caring community can do! The Johnsons will most likely need continued support for at least a year, as the asylum process can take quite a long time. The family is so grateful and is humbled by the love and support they have found here in this community! Tola describes this as "the physical presence of God in their lives, working through the people who have been put in their path during this journey."

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2354 Grove Road, Allentown PA 18109; 610-266-5101. nepsinfo1988@gmail.com.
View the full color edition online at <http://nepasynod.org/publications/synod-news>.

“Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church of Perry Township”

Like us on Facebook www.zionslutheran.org

354 Zions Church Rd, Shoemakersville, PA 19555 Church Office: 610-562-3112

Church Office Email is churchoffice@zionslutheran.org

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

Worship Services: Saturdays at 5 p.m., Sundays 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School classes for all ages at 9:15 a.m. **Come and Grow in Your Faith!**

Check out www.livinglutheran.org and subscribe

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

Zion’s Lutheran Church Staff

The Rev. Bruce G. Osterhout, Pastor (Cell: 610-914-2795) Email: pastorbruce@zionslutheran.org,
Administrative Assistant, Amanda Grow; Director of Music Ministry, Don Ryan; Hand Bells/Brass, Steven Turner;
Custodians, Ruth Hoppes, Brian Moroney, and Karen Mengel; Treasurer, Sandra Moroney

2017 Congregation Council Members:

President: Eileen Puglia; Vice President: Wanda Hoherchak; Secretary: Gerald O’Brien; Ruth Ann Eyer,
Lucille Gough, Mark Dreibelbis, Susan Lutz, Joe Leone, Bill Deibler, Dawn O’Brien, Mitch Shestok

Community Ministries @ Zion’s

Monday nights: Cub Scouts 6:30 pm Boy Scouts 7:30 pm – Pack/Troop 163.

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

Handbell Rehearsal: Thursdays 7 p.m. Brass Rehearsal: Thursdays at 8 p.m.

Adult Choir Rehearsal: Wednesdays 7:15 p.m. Adult Bible Study: Wednesdays 6:15 p.m.

www.readysetreadberks.org Read to a 2nd grader a Perry School (8:30-9:15) Tilden School (3:30-4:30)

Regular Monthly Activities – Please Join in

Quilt-Knotters: Second/Fourth Tuesdays 9 - 11 a.m. in the Gold Room (You also can work at home!)

Zion’s Senior Adult Fellowship: Thursday, November 16th at 11 a.m.

Zion’s Book Group: Next Meeting is January 18, 2018

Serve the Opportunity House Meal every third Friday of the month

Food Distribution Volunteers are always welcome each month:

On the 3rd Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Lutheran Church of Holy Trinity, Leesport.

On the 4th Tuesday of the month from 5 - 8 p.m. Volunteers are always welcome at the
Hamburg Middle School Pantry Distribution. **You can get community service hours!**

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

Recent Veterans can get help at keystonemilitaryfamilies.com 331 Main St. Shoemakersville.

More info on Facebook. Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m

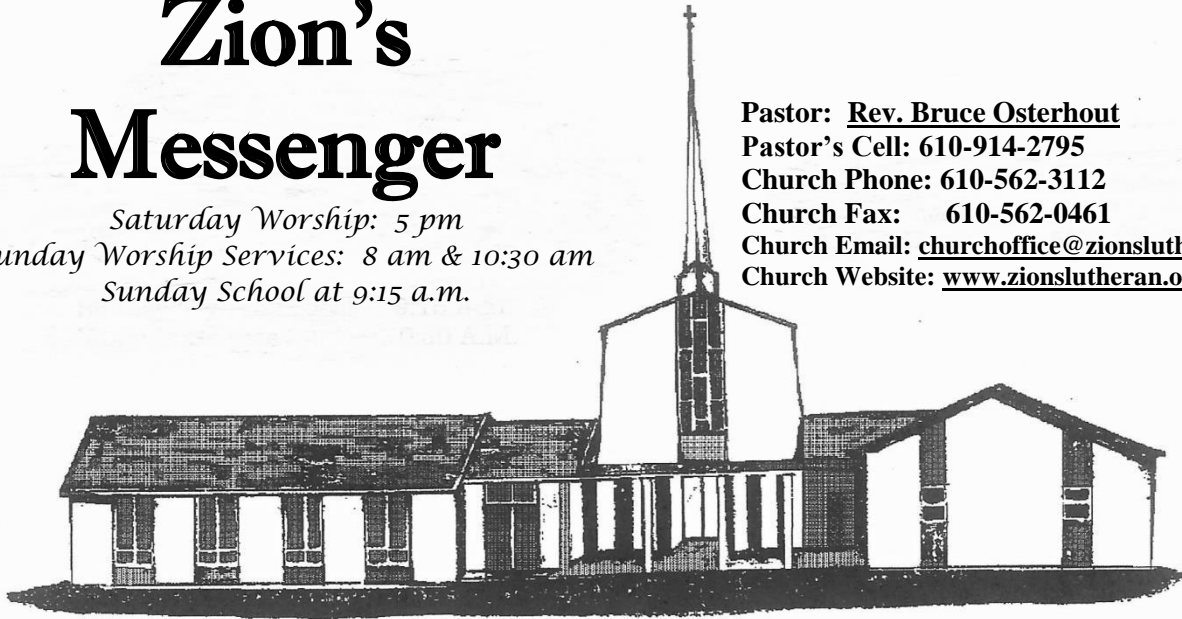
CARROT HARVESTERS ARE DESPERATELY NEEDED AT THE KU HERITAGE CENTER. SAT/SUN 1-4 P.M.
PLEASE CHECK OUT The Potato Project Facebook page for details. Let us not waste this harvest!

November 2017

Zion's Messenger

Saturday Worship: 5 pm
Sunday Worship Services: 8 am & 10:30 am
Sunday School at 9:15 a.m.

Pastor: Rev. Bruce Osterhout
Pastor's Cell: 610-914-2795
Church Phone: 610-562-3112
Church Fax: 610-562-0461
Church Email: churchoffice@zionslutheran.org
Church Website: www.zionslutheran.org



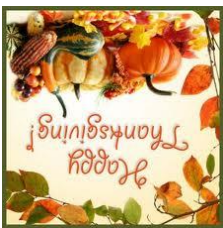
Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church
354 Zions Church Road, Shoemakersville, PA 19555

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 & 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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