



Zion's Messenger April 2018

Holy Week 2018

Dear Zion Friends,

Lent started on Valentine's Day this year. As we have reviewed 5 biblical covenants over the past 5 Sundays, we have talked a lot about God's unfailing love. Human love fails but God's love does not. Of course, we always talk about love at church. God's love for all of his people is a love story that has no ending. Please note that word "all" applies to every human being on this planet. No human set boundary can exclude anyone from that love.

During the coming Great and Holy Week, as a congregation we will again retell the "Greatest Love Story Ever Told". That story includes triumph, tragedy, betrayal, violence, agony, sorrow with a very shocking, earth-shattering surprise at the end of it.

We will celebrate The Resurrection of Our Lord on April Fool's Day, April 1. Tricks can, indeed, be scary things. As this year in particular, God plays a really good one on the forces of darkness, death and devil. The powerful army of Rome thinks that they have eliminated a treasonous revolutionary. The Scribes and Pharisees who stirred up the crowd to yell "Crucify, Crucify him" are smug because they think that they have succeeded. In one account, they even tried to post guards at the grave. When the guards fell asleep, they were bribed to say that the body was stolen. In Mark's story, even after an angel tells the women that "Jesus was raised, he is not here", they don't believe it. They ran away from the tomb "for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid." **They didn't get the joke!** It took them awhile to figure it out. They still needed his help. They needed a measure of his loving spirit.

All of these years later, we get the joke, don't we? When students have to run away from their school building or people run from a concert in fear, we know that we human beings need God. When pedestrian walkways fall on cars and crush people, we can see that our human ways are fallible and lead to death. When hurricanes destroy homes and lives, and people who are not sympathetic and far away fail to act to help, we could see our human sin. Accidents. Thirst. Different-ness. Greed. Apathy. Cancer. Addiction. Gender violence. Impatience. Tragedies. Self-centeredness. Hatred. Loneliness. Isolation. Crime. Cruelty. Hunger. I could go on and on and on about the human behaviors that are sinful. **That's where the joke comes in!**

The God of Heaven and Earth, the God who created all things, yes, that God, silences all of that sin with a loving action. In the biggest reversal of all time, God turns the tables. They expected death. They got life. They expected condemnation and punishment. They were forgiven. They expected more power, more control, more obedience. Instead they received grace upon grace. They saw that their ways were wrong and led to death. They saw that way of God led them to life, and hope and salvation. **That's why we are still talking about it today!**

We kneel to confess, we receive absolution. We kneel around a table and put out our hands to receive bread and wine. We will gather in a church, dark at first. Then the light will come and we will celebrate the welcoming, life-giving splash of water that brings forgiveness and eternal life. We sing praises to the God of All Seasons who has the last word on the forecast for the day. New life has come! Embrace it! Join us for the celebration! Thanks be to our God! I am Pastor Bruce

Volunteer Responsibilities for April

GREETERS

1-6:30 am Lois DeTurk (Easter)
1-10:30 am Needed (Easter)
8-8:00 am Lois DeTurk
8-10:30 am Dan & Carolyn Geist
15-8:00 am Venus Fioravanti and Rita Decker
15-10:30 am Paul & Linda Weidner
22-8:00 am Leone Family
22-10:30 am Susan & Woody Lutz
29-8:00 am Ron & Joy Weyer
29-10:30 am David & Mary Mengle

ACOLYTES

1-6:30 am Needed (Easter)
2nd Needed
1-10:30 am Ty Seidel (Easter)
2nd Drew Koller
8-8:00 am Morgan Gallagher
8-10:30 am Needed
15-8:00 am Drew Koller
15-10:30 am Bella Denatala
22-8:00 am Carley Gallagher
22-10:30 am Morgan Gallagher
29- 8:00 am Bella Denatala
29- 10:30 am Drew Koller

LECTORS

1-6:30 am Susan Lutz (Easter)
1-10:30 am Needed (Easter)
8-8:00 am Jeanette Heckman
8-10:30 am Faye Heckman
15-8:00 am Venus Fioravanti
15-10:30 am Mark Price
22-8:00 am Susan Lutz
22-10:30 am Rita Decker
29-8:00 am Jeanette Heckman
29-10:30 am Mark Dreibelbis

Please contact Church Office if you would like to be a Lector for 8 or 10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Services

Altar Guild: Wanda Hoherchak and Kim Olszewski

Bread Baker: Eileen Puglia

Opportunity House Meal: Wanda Horachek-Captain. Pat Potts, Mike Potts, and Janine Dreibelbis

Mail Team #4: Thursday, April, 26th

Sandra Masters, Brenda Hartman, Jane Seidel, and Mary Barto

The March Food Pantry item: Juice

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

Upcoming Events At Zion's

April 1st, Easter Sunday,

Worship at 6:30 am with Breakfast to follow.

Breakfast will include the following: Ham slices, potatoes, scrambled eggs, cream chipped beef, toast & jelly, muffins, fruit cups, apple juice, OJ, milk, coffee reg. or decaf and tea



Worship at 10:30 a.m.

Spring has arrived and it is time to make plans for some new activities at Zion's! Zion's WELCA will meet on Tuesday, April 3rd at 6:00pm. All women of the congregation are members of this group and are welcomed to join us as we continue to do God's work! Hope to see you at the meeting!!!

Zion's Photo Directory

Photo directory pictures will be taken on these dates:

Monday, April 9th, 2 – 9 p.m.

Tuesday, April 10th, 2 – 9 p.m.

Thursday, April 19th, 1 – 9 p.m.

Friday, April 20th, 2 – 9 p.m.

Saturday, April 21st 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**Zion's Senior Adults will meet on Thursday, April 19th, 10:00 a.m.! This will be a catered meal
Come join for cards, games, and fellowship!**

Monday, April 9th, at 7:00 p.m. at Zion's Lutheran Church, Bishop Samuel Zeiser, of the NPS of the ELCA will give some prayers of dedication to the Labyrinth.



Zion's Book Club

This month's meeting is on Thursday, April 19 at 7:00pm in the church library. We will be discussing *Lincoln in the Bardo*.

April 19 *Lincoln in the Bardo* by George Saunders

May 17 *Sing Unburied Sing* by Jesmyn Ward

June 21 *Winter's Tale* by Mark Helprin

Labyrinth

If you want to purchase a brick, you need to return your engraved brick form by Sunday, April 15, 2018. The deadline for purchasing a brick is Sunday, April 15, 2018 - the same as "tax day"!

The next Labyrinth committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 19, 2018 at 6:00 P.M. in the church library.

Northern Berks Community Garden

*"In the spring,
at the end of the day,
you should smell like dirt."*

-Margaret Atwood

Spring is almost here, and our Garden will start its 5th season. Please check Sunday bulletins and Zion's Facebook page for news of the Garden opening. Previous volunteers will be contacted when we're ready to start. If you want to be put on the Garden volunteer list, please see Lori Palubinski.

Special Thanks, Prayers, & Thoughts

Congratulations to Doctor John Smith, on 2017 Volunteer of the year at Hamburg our town foundation. Good work in the community.

Prayers to the Puglia Family

Prayers to Peggy Marquette

Prayers to Karen and Luke Mengel for healthy and speedy recoveries.

Prayers to Sandra Masters

Shut In Mailing List

Mrs. Jane Francis
Grand View Manor
129 Houck Rd.
Fleetwood, PA 19522

Mrs. Mary Ellen Fraunfelder
1421 Philadelphia Ave. #242
Chambersburg, PA 17201

Mrs. Gloria Fisher
Laurel Center
125 Holly Rd.
Hamburg, PA 19526

Joann Himmelberger
1152 Main St.
Shoemakersville, Pa 19555

David Seidel
Grand View Manor
129 Houck Rd
Fleetwood, Pa 19522

Peggy Marquette
210 Constitution Dr.
Hamburg, Pa 19562

Nancy Leiby
1237 Perry St.
Reading, Pa 19604

Bertha Stewart
1040 Berks Rd. Berks Heim A233
Leesport, Pa 19533

George Seidel
Grand View Manor Rm 7
129 Houck Rd.
Fleetwood, Pa 19522

Jack & Dorothy Wertz
Maiden Creek Place
105 Dries Rd. Room 7
Reading, Pa 19605

Joanne Busch
616 N.2nd St
Reading, Pa 19601

Sandra Masters
228-A Lutheran Home
1 South Home Ave
Topton, Pa 19562

Fern Stricker
112 Main St.
Blandon, Pa 19510

Faith Around Town

Faith at the Movies


Faith at the Movies – “Miracles from Heaven”

Tuesday, April 24th at 7, p.m. At The Hamburg Strand Theater. \$8.00 includes small popcorn and small drink. Come and watch a movie and then stay for the discussion.

Nashville Bus Trip has 6 spaces yet available for April 23rd – 28th. Featuring Grand Ole Opry. Please contact Susie Lutz at 610-562-8785 for more information.

April 21st Community Shredding Event more info please contact 610-478-6362

Summer is coming.... Calling all potential Bear Creek Campers (grades 1-12)

Summer is right around the corner and  according to Bear Creek Camp the registrations are rolling in. They say “join us for an amazing week here as we learn how Christ’s love changes everything in our lives”. Registration forms are in the church office. We’ll be sending in the next group of camper registration forms April 4. Figure out which date you want to go to camp, fill out the registration, write a check to Zion’s WELCA for a deposit, and Zion’s WELCA will pay ½ of your camp fee for Zion’s members. See Carol Rothermel for more information. Check the camp website for info about dates and accommodations for each age group. www.bearcreekcamp.org

FAMILY CAMP at Bear Creek Camp

BCC is now offering a few different Family Camp experiences:

Memorial Day Family Camp (May 25-28)

Week-Long Summer Family Camp (July 1-6)

Labor Day Family Camp (Aug. 31-Sept. 3)

For more information on either of these opportunities and how to sign your family up for an amazing time, visit our site! www.bearcreekcamp.org.

Church Reports

Treasurers Report

1-1-17 Beginning Balance	\$18,317.44
General Offering	\$24,024.77
Special Offering	\$24,003.19
Sub-Total	\$66,345.40
Current Expenses	\$71,877.29
Balance	\$(-5,531.89)
2-28-18	

Council Corner

Council continues to have 3 available openings. Please let anyone from council know if you are interested in filling any of these positions. Council could vote anyone in to serve the remainder of the year. If you ever thought about trying council, now would be your opportunity without making a long-term commitment.

A deposit of \$8,898.58 has been paid to Kistler-O'Brien for the monitoring Fire Protection System that will be installed soon. Council approved \$1,426.60 plus an addition 10% if needed to replace both computers in the church office. The money will be taken from memorial funds that have been designated to Technology/Sound System.

Photo Sessions are being scheduled. **It is not too late to sign up.** The information is included in the Sunday bulletin. Lifetouch has asked that everyone be signed up 2 weeks prior to the scheduled sessions. Dates still available are April 19th, 20th, and 21st. There is also a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for Host and Hostesses for the scheduled sessions. Please sign up if you are available to assist with this.

Pastor Bruce is going to set up a meeting with the Boy Scout Leader at Zion's

to talk about them accepting girls into the troop.

Upcoming events are the East Berks Mission on May 3 and the Synod Assembly on June 7-8. If you are interested in attending either of these events, please contact Eileen Puglia, Lucille Gough, Wanda Hoherchak or Pastor Bruce.

Thank you Submitted by Wanda Hoherchak
Council Secretary



HAPPY KNOTTERS/Quilters

This winter must have been a rough and tough different winter. We have 35 quilt tops sewn together. Thank you for all your hard work. We can always use helpers. Thank you Knotters

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.

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://facebook.com/groups/LWRQuilters/)

SAVE THE DATE

**Save the Date: Vacation Bible School
Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus
June 18-22 from 9:00-11:30am**

I will be looking for adults and youth to help make this week a success! Please consider volunteering your time and talents.

Faye Heckman - VBS Director

Easter Breakfast

Sunday, April 1st, 2018

7:30 am in Fellowship Hall

*Breakfast choices include:
cream chipped beef, ham, potatoes,
scrambled eggs, toast, fruit salad,
muffins, drinks*

*Praise and Glory to God and Christ for this
Most Wonderful of Days!*



April Birthday Calendar 2018




Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Lucas C. Price	3 Hailey Denatala	4	5	6 Michael Puglia	7 Autumn Eyer
8 Stephanie Shumaker	9 Neil Hoffman Gerald O'Brien Codi Trabosh	10 Rev. Aaron Decker Mary Mengle Brandon Wahl Olivia Wilhelm	11 Sherry Houser	12	13 Nicholas Clark Andrew Scheidt	14 Emily Kohler Russell Olszewski Donald Seidel
15	16 Bryce Brennan Carrie Reeser Amy Smith Jacob Fegley	17 Joanne Busch*	18 Jessica Long	19 Joan Sayer	20 Veronica Heckman	21 Colby Grugan Evelyn Hoppes Gloria Macheimer
22 Jordan Smith	23 Michael Houtz Jack Wertz*	24	25 Carol Justice Kendra McCurdy	26 Richard Miller	27 Linda Bowling	28 Mary Ellen Fraunfelter* David Peters
29 Noah Bensinger	30 Karen Brown Daniel Geist Andrew Heckman					*Shut in



April Calendar of Events 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 Easter Sunday 6:30 am Dawn Service 7:45 am Zion's Breakfast 9:15 am S.School 10:30 am Worship Service</p> 	<p>2 Office Closed</p> <p>6:30pm Cub Scouts 7:30pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>3</p> <p>6:00pm WELCA</p> <p>7:00pm AA.- AL-Anon</p>	<p>4</p> <p>7:15 pm Choir</p>	<p>5</p> <p>6:00pm Worship & Music</p> <p>7:00pm Bells/8:00pm Brass</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>5:00 pm Worship 7:00pm A.A.</p>
<p>8 8:00am Worship 9:15am S.School 10:30am Worship</p> <p>Pomona Grange will be our guests today.</p>	<p>9 Office Closed</p> <p>7:00 pm Bishop Zeiser will give prayers to Labyrinth</p> <p>2-9pm Photos for Directory</p> <p>6:30pm Cub Scouts 7:30pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9-11 Knotters</p> <p>2-9pm Photos for Directory</p> <p>7:00pm Council Mtg.</p> <p>7:00pm AA.- AL-Anon</p>	<p>11</p> <p>1:30 pm Library Volunteers</p> <p>7:15 pm Choir</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:00am Cemetery mtg. @ Zions Cemetery</p> <p>7:00pm Bells/8:00pm Brass</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>5:00pm Worship 7:00pm A.A.</p>
<p>15 8:00am Worship 9:15am S. School 10:30 am Worship</p> <p>Kutztown Jazz Band will be our guests today</p> <p>Deadline to order bricks</p>	<p>16 Office Closed</p> <p>May Newsletter Deadline</p> <p>6:30pm Cub Scouts 7:30pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>17</p> <p>7:00pm AA.-AL-Anon</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7:15pm Choir</p>	<p>19</p> <p>10:00am Zions Seniors</p> <p>1-9pm Photos for Directory</p> <p>7:00pm Bells/8:00pm Brass</p> <p>7:00pm Book Club</p> <p>7:00pm Property Comm. Mtg.</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Opportunity House Meal served</p> <p>2-9pm Photos for Directory</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10am-5pm Photos for Directory</p> <p>5:00 pm Worship 7:00pm A.A.</p>
<p>22 8:00am Worship 9:15am S. School 10:30 am Worship</p>	<p>23 Office Closed</p> <p>6:00 pm Labyrinth Mtg.</p> <p>6:30pm Cub Scouts 7:30pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9-11 Knotters</p> <p>7:00pm AA.-AL-Anon</p>	<p>25</p> <p>7:15pm Choir</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Mail Team # 5</p> <p>7:00pm Bells/8:00 p.m. Brass</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>5:00pm Worship 7:00pm AA-AL-Anon</p>
<p>29 8:00am Worship 9:15am S. School 10:30 am Worship</p> <p>Alternative Sunday</p>	<p>30 Office Closed</p> <p>6:30pm Cub Scouts 7:30pm Boy Scouts</p>					

“Zion’s 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

2018 Congregation Council Members:

President: Eileen Puglia; Vice President: Lucille Gough; Secretary: Wanda Hoherchak; Ruth Ann Eyer, Lucille Gough, Mark Dreibelbis, Susan Lutz, Mike Potts, and Tina Blake, and Donna Long

Community Ministries @ Zion’s

Mon nights: Cub Scouts 6:30 pm Boy Scouts 7:30 pm – Pack/Troop 163 Labyrinth Dedication Apr. 9

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: Thurs. April 19th at 11 a.m. **Catered Meal, bring dessert**

Zion’s Book Group: Next Meeting is Thurs. April 15th at 7 p.m. “

Serve the Opportunity House Meal every third Friday of the month, Fri. April 20th,

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.

2018 Mission Trips to consider

April 8-15 to Eastern Kentucky \$100 per person. July 29-Aug.3 to Puerto Rico

April 2018



Zion's Messenger

Saturday Worship: 5 p.m.
Sunday Worship Services: 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 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 †



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