Zion's Messenger February 2019



Letter from the Pastor:

Dear Zion Members and Friends,

These last 2 weeks, in the Second Reading, in worship, we have read from 1 Corinthians 12: 12-13, Paul's famous chapter about spiritual gifts. "For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we are all baptized into one body - Jews or Greeks, slaves or free - and we were all made to drink of one Spirit."

Tuesday, January 29 was a day lost to a snowstorm. Schools were cancelled for the day. The roads were bad by late afternoon. I stayed home. When the snow had stopped, about 9 p.m., I ventured out to shovel my sidewalk and clean off the cars. In the darkness, I met up with my neighbor Martin. We were both shoveling. I hadn't seen or spoken to Martin since last fall on the day that his wife had fallen on their back steps and she had to be taken to the hospital by ambulance. "How is your wife?" I said to Martin, in the darkness. "She died last Friday" he said. "I'm sorry, I didn't know", I said. We continued shoveling and got more acquainted. I learned that Martin is a Canadian. Martin had been caring for his wife in their home for years now that I knew. God had brought us together on this snowy night on the sidewalk in the dark. Martin's wife's Celebration of Life service is this Friday, February 1. They had been together 19 years. "Let me know if I can help you with anything, good night" I said as we parted.

As the baptized people of God, we are all part of "the body of Christ", the Church of Jesus Christ here on this earth. 1 Corinthians 12:26 says "If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it." My prayers are with Martin and his family as they gather to grieve the passing of Sherri, their loved one. They will gather on a day close to when you will receive this newsletter in the mail. I will remember them in prayer.

I tell you this story to remind you that, as the baptized people of God, our prayers and our work always extends to those who are our neighbors, to those who are outside of the immediate Zion's Lutheran community of believers. In your daily prayers and work, remember to reach out to those in our neighborhoods who need a kind word, a listening ear, and a pray for comfort. Pastor Bruce

P.S. BE "SOUPER" THIS WEEKEND! On this weekend of the big game, check out souperbowl.org and tacklehunger.org to find out more information about this great ministry outreach that was started with a youth group prayer in a Presbyterian Church in South Carolina in 1990. Give a donation this weekend to support the excellent work of Opportunity House. (opphouse.org)

February Volunteer Schedule

GREETERS

3-8:00 am Rita Decker

3-10:30 am Nelson & Ruth Ann Eyer

10-8:00 am Robert & Vernie Noecker

10-10:30 am Paul & Linda Weidner

17-8:00 am Gary & Carol Rothermel

17-10:30 am Susan & Woody Lutz

24-8:00 am Venus Fioravanti

24-10:30 am Barbara Shafer and Maylynn Wagner

ACOLYTES

3-8:00 am Bella Denatala

3-10:30 am Drew Koller

10-8:00 am Brayden Heckman

10-10:30 am Ty Seidel

17-8:00 am Volunteer Please Do

17-10:30 am Drew Koller

24-8:00 am Bella Denatala

24-10:30 am Samantha Gruber

LECTORS

3-8:00 am Rita Decker

3-10:30 am Janine Dreibelbis

10-8:00 am Venus Fioravanti

10-10:30 am Susan Lutz

17-8:00 am Jeanette Heckman

17-10:30 am Mark Dreibelbis

24-8:00 am Venus Fioravanti

24-10:30 am Chris Brennan

Altar Guild: Ruth Wilhelm and Pat Potts

Bread Baker: Faye Smith

Opportunity House Meal: Tina Blake - Captain

Mike and Pat Potts, Gary Rothermel

Mail Team: # 1 February 28th

February Food Pantry item: **Canned Vegetables**

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

The Souper Bowl of Caring
Sunday, February 3rd
A special offering to benefit Opportunity House
Visit tacklehunger.org for more information.

Just a reminder that the next quarterly All Committee Heads meeting will be held Monday night, **February 4th, at 7:00 pm** in the Adult Sunday School room. See Eileen Puglia with any questions.

Zion's Senior Adults will meet on Thursday, Feb 21st @ 11 a.m.

Bring fruit and desserts too, as usual. Everyone enjoyed the covered dishes this summer. Cards and games. All are welcome. Group meets in the Gold Room. Card games and board games begin at 11 a.m. in the Gold Room.

Zions Cemetery Meeting

Feb. 14, 2019 at 9:00 A.M. Cemetery board meeting at Zion, Windsor Castle church.

Youth Group News

February 10, 2019 – Craft night with Eileen Puglia – 6:00-8:00 PM – We will be making a craft to send to our military or possibly our local nursing home.

February 17, 2019 – Escape Room at The Works – 3:00 PM – Cost \$10/person

Please email <u>youthgroup@zionslutheran.org</u> to RSVP for this event by February 13, 2019.



What is your Passion?

This year's Passion Sunday will be held Sunday, February 17, 2019. Set-up will be Sunday morning, Feb. 17, by 9:00 A.M., weather permitting, so members can view displays after the 8:00 A.M. worship and before and after Sunday school and the 10:30 A.M. worship.

You will place your items on a table, assigned to you, in the fellowship hall. You need to be available to answer questions about your display. One reason I really like Passion Sunday is it helps us get to know each other better.

You don't have to have a large collection – 3 items make a collection. Your collection can be of art, plates, trains, crafts, salt/pepper shakers, Lenten items, books, dolls, etc. I'll share my collection of scarves this year.

Please contact me if you are interested in sharing. My phone number is 610-562-4930, email is Neyer297@comcast.net or tell me on Sunday mornings at church. Ruth Ann Eyer Thanks

NEIGHBORHOOD MEMORY CAFÉ

Wednesday, 27th at 1 p.m. in the Gold Room at Zion's Lutheran Church

Memory Cafés judgement free spaces where those who have memory concerns and/or their caregivers can talk with others in similar situations; learn what others are doing; learn about available resources; and come together to share experiences with new and old friends. Each Memory Café is guided by a facilitator who leads the group in the direction the participants would like while providing sufficient support and guidance.

Since opening its doors in May of this year, the Hamburg Area Memory Café has been positively impacting its participants.

Members have engaged in conversations about a variety of topics, laughed and sang with each other, and had the opportunity to learn more about available resources thanks to a presentation by Kellie Butsack, Associate Director Programs, Alzheimer's Association.

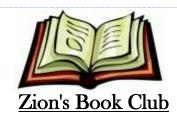
One member and his caregiver are looking forward to bringing his guitar to a future session so that he can play for the group. Others have commented, "I cannot believe how open everyone was with their conversation, it really helps." Another shared "now that I have released my emotions, I can go home." The group's facilitator has also experienced the positive effects of the café. "We talked and had great conversation, sang and laughed. I cannot tell you what a great group of people. Now I see how [memory cafés] are supposed to work. The interaction is natural and not forced."

The Hamburg Area Memory Café is held (AT Zion's Lutheran Church) on the 4th Wednesday of each month from 1 – 2 PM; however, the schedule may change due to major holidays, organizational conflicts, or weather-related concerns. The café is free and open to anyone in the community who has a memory concern, can negotiate the physical space (which is fully wheelchair accessible), and enjoys being in a group of people. Caregivers are also welcome and encouraged to join. For more information on the Hamburg Memory Café or to RSVP, please contact Kim at 484-862-3095 or Kimberly.Infante@lyhn.org



SNOW SHOVELING VOLUNTEERS

The Property Committee is seeking volunteers to help with snow shoveling this winter. A sign-up sheet for volunteers is posted on the bulletin board. If you are interested in helping, please sign the sheet for the week(s) that you are willing to cover this responsibility. If you have any questions about the responsibilities of a shoveling volunteer, contact Gary Rothermel, or any Property Committee member. Thank you.



The book club will be meeting on Thursday, Feb 21st, at 7:00 pm in the church library.

We will be discussing "Unsheltered " by Barbara Kingsolver.

February- "Unsheltered" by Barbara Kingsolver- This book follows two families living in the same home at two different time periods in Vineland, NJ.

March- "The Mountain Between Us" by Charles Martin- This is an adventure story of survival.

April- "Becoming" by Michelle Obama



Volunteer to take over church library duties

Needed; a volunteer to take over church library duties. Ruth Ann Eyer will show you how it's been done in the past, if you want. However, you can do it your way. Don't give any donations until a volunteer comes forward, because we don't want the library to become a room of clutter! You can store your items at home and donate them to the annual Bazaar "flea market" held in November.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday,

March 6. Midweek Wednesday Lenten worship will be held in the Nave at 7 p.m. each week. Zion hosts the Northern Berks Ministerium Worship service on Thursday, March 21st, at 11:30 a.m. Looking further ahead, Easter Sunday is April 21.

Special Thank You Notes

"Happiness is found not in the abundance of things. But in being thankful for what we have."

Shut in Mailing List

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

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 moving in February to
Assisted Living

Nancy Leiby 350 Lackawanna St. Apt.320 Reading, Pa 19601

Bertha Stewart 1040 Berks Rd. Berks Heim A233 Leesport, Pa 19533 George Seidel 501 Hoch Rd Keystone Villa Blandon, Pa 19510

Dorothy Wertz
Maiden Creek Place
105 Dries Rd. Room 5
Reading, Pa 19605

Fern Stricker 112 Main St. Blandon, Pa 19510







CAKE AUCTION BAKE SALE

A benefit for Leann Wheeland and her sons, Brantlee and Baylor. A car accident caused serious injuries to both Leann and Brantlee, 5 years old. All proceeds go to Leann, Brantlee, and Baylor to help cover medical and living expenses.

FEBRUARY 23, 2019 12 - 4 PM

LYNNPORT FIRE COMPANY

A Chinese Auction will be held with many items including gift cards and gift baskets. Beautiful cakes will be up for auction. Delicious baked goods will be available to purchase. Come hungry food will be available to purchase provided by Lynnport Fire Co. and all proceeds will go to Leann and her boys. We hope to see you there!

If you would like to donate to the Chinese Auction or have any questions please contact Morgan DeLong @ 484-599-0961 OR Krista Kistler @ 484-239-8843
*In case of bad weather, a snow date is scheduled for March 2, 2019.

Faith Around Town

Faith at the Movies:

"Fireproof"



Tuesday, February 26th, at 7 p.m. The Hamburg Strand Theater. \$8.00 includes small popcorn and small drink. Come and watch a movie and then stay for the discussion.

GriefShare meets Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm at Zion's Church, 770 Zions Church Road.

For information contact 610-562-2300 or <u>zionssecretary7@comcast.net</u>.

Join at any time in the series.

January 30, 2019	The Journey of Grief I
February 6, 2019	The Journey of Grief II
February 13, 2019	Grief and Your

Relationships

February 20,	2019	Why?
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February 27, 2019	Guilt and Anger
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March 6, 2019	Complicating Factors
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March 13, 2019 Stuck

March 20, 2019 Lessons of Grief I
March 27, 2019 Lessons of Grief II

April 3, 2019 Heaven

April 10, 2019 What Do I Live For Now?

April 17, 2019 Surviving the Holidays

Church Reports

Treasurers Report

1-1-18 Beginning Balance	18,317.44
General Offering	176,813.23
Special Offering	48,087.38
Sub-Total	243,218.05
Current Expenses	251,715.18
Balance	-8,497.13

COUNCIL CORNER

This month's Council Corner will be a report of the January 2019 Congregational Meeting.

Pastor Bruce's opening devotions included a celebration of accomplishments in 2018. We had a lot to be proud of, including restarting our Youth Ministry, making 120 quilts, producing more than 2 tons of food in the Garden, WELCA's Christmas in July for Mary's Shelter, and continuing the ministries at Opportunity House, Hamburg Food Pantry, and Angel Tree donations.

Our Agenda focused on moving forward, electing the members and leaders needed to coordinate the work of the church and the budget to help move the church forward into 2019. Happily, we celebrated the blessing of the donation from William Hill's estate funds and had a positive discussion of possible uses for the funds, including music ministries to honor Bill (a song, new organ, baby grand piano, etc.), capital fund use, operating fund use to close the deficit, etc. Several members expressed interest in using funds for a combination of music ministries and capital funds. There was some concern with using the funds for operating expenses. The incoming council will take all input under consideration.

Sadly, we approved the 2019 budget with a deficit between Expenses and projected Income. Projected proposed giving was increased by 7.5%, but is still not expected to close the budget gap. It was emphasized that we all need to prayerfully consider increased giving if at all possible. On the positive side, no money was moved from Vanguard to cover our expenses in 2018.

It was requested that additional figures be provided in the newsletter for an even clearer picture of our financial status each month.

Regarding Pastoral Transition, it was restated that the Synod will not begin the transition process until Pastor Bruce accepts a new call.

The Synod will then assist us with the necessary paperwork, and a call committee can then be formed.

There was interest expressed in forming a 50th Anniversary Committee. Ruth Ann Eyer will advertise a meeting for members interested in helping to coordinate anniversary plans.

Thank you to Venus Fioravanti who finished on Nominating Committee and Gary Rothermel who is finished on Auditing Committee. Their service is appreciated.

Thank you to the newly elected Council Members, who were installed before the close of the meeting: Susan Lutz, Mark Dreibelbis, Donna Long, John Smith, and Janine Dreibelbis.

I would like to thank the congregation for my opportunity to serve you on Church Council the past 3 years, and for your vote of confidence in my leadership as Council President the past 2 years.

My decision not to run for another term was a difficult one, but an understandable one after this difficult year. I look forward to my continued involvement in the different ministries of Zion's, as we move forward into 2019 with mercy and grace.

Working together in His name, for the body of Christ that is our church. Eileen Puglia





Relay For Life Vendor Bingo @Leesport Farmers Market 312 Gernants Church Rd, Leesport, PA 19533

> Sunday, February 10th, 2019 Doors open 12:30 pm – First game 2 pm

Donation \$20 in advance \$25 at the door 20 Games of Bingo - 20 Fabulous Prizes*!!

*All prizes have a minimum retail value of \$35.

Tickets or Questions – Kat O'Mara at komara81@gmail.com
or 484-769-1408

All Proceeds Benefit the Relay For Life of Western Berks

A copy of the American Cancer Society's official registration and financial information may be obtained from the

Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania 1-800-732-0999.

KNOTTERS: The Knotters will continue to meet every 2nd and 4th
Tuesday of the month, 9 a.m. -11 a.m. Weather permitting. Volunteers are welcome. Squares are available in the Church Office to take along home and sew together.

Sponsors needed for Sunday Bulletins, Reading Eagle, & Hamburg Item for the month of January. Come on in, pick a date, and send a special message!! New Sheets are up!

Looking Ahead ———



- *House Cleaning Fellowship Hall.
 Saturday March 2nd 9a.m.-12 p.m.
 Sign-up sheet on narthex bulletin
 board. For more information please
 see Gary Rothermel.
- *Ash Wednesday March 6th
- *Easter Sunday April 21st.



Mark Your Calendar!

Mark Your Calendars for a special worship experience here at Zion's on Saturday, March 30 at 5:00 P.M. and Sunday, March 31 at 10:30 A.M. Let's be an inviting church and ask your friends, neighbors and extended family to join us for worship.

As you know when a month has 5 Sundays, which happens 4 times a year, Pastor Bruce and the Worship & Music committee try to plan something to enhance our worship. For the 5th Sunday of March, we invited a Praise & Worship Ministry team called the "Threefold Blessing" group to assist with worship. They are on Facebook as Threefold Blessing. Won't you join us?

			ebruary Birthday	Caichuai		
					FRI Feb 1 Adrienne Puglia Alyssa Noecker Deanna Puglia Melissa Gruber Phil Kerr	SAT 2 Harold Kramer Kyleigh Mengel Scott Lopez
3 Lee Barto	4.	5	6 Keith Seidel	7 Cathleen Mengel	8 Brayden Heckman James Blandford	9 Keith Hertzog
10 Wesley Trabosh	111	12 Christina Steffy Jane Francis*	13 Alyz Mazaika	14 Katelyn Heckman Lauren Werley-Wolf Valentine's Day	15 Tiffany Youse	16 Carolyn Geist
17	18 Eric Seidel Mikalee Kerr Presidents' Day (regional holiday)	19	20 Jory Heckman	21 Kenneth Reppert Lois DeTurk Patricia Adam	22	23 Zachary Hoherchak
24 Ernest Heckman	25 Carielle Geist Tyler Pond	26 Joel Werley Ruth Wilhelm	27	28 Owen Heckman	Mar 1 Feb 29th Ryan Boyer - leap year	

February Calendar of Events						
				COMMENTS OF	FRI Feb 1 Mail Team #4	SAT 2 • 5pm Saturday Casual Worship Serv • 7pm A.A. Meeting
3 Souper Bowl Sunday 8 Barn Holy Communion Service 9:15am Sunday School Classes 10:30am Holy Communion Service	4 Office Closed 7pm Quarterly All Committee Heads	5 7pm A.A. & Al-Anon Meetings 7pm Christian ed.	6 • 7:15pm Choir	7 • 7pm Bells • 8pm Brass	8	9 • 5pm Saturday Casual Worship Servi • 7pm A.A. Meeting
Passion Sunday Bam Worship Service 9:15am Sunday School Classes 10:30am Holy Communion Service 6pm Cub Scout Mtg.	11 Office Closed	12 9am Happy Knotters 7pm A.A. & Al-Anon Meetings 7pm Council Mtg.	13 • 7:15pm Choir	Valentine's Day 9am Cemetery Meeting 7pm Bells 7pm Altar Guild Mtg. 8pm Brass	15 • 5:30pm Opportunity House Meal	16 • 5pm Saturday Casual Worship Servic • 7pm A.A. Meeting
17 8 8am Holy Communion Service 9:15am Sunday School Classes 10:30am Holy Communion Service	18 Presidents Day (regional holiday) NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Office Closed	19 • 7pm A.A. & Al-Anon Meetings	20 • 7:15pm Choir	21 11am Zion's Seniors Group 6pm Worship & Music 7pm Bells 7pm Book Club 8pm Brass	22	23 5pm Saturday Casual Worship Servic 7pm A.A. Meeting
24 8 8am Holy Communion Service 9:15am Sunday School Classes 10:30am Worship Service	25 Office Closed	26 • 9am Happy Knotters • 7pm A.A. & Al-Anon Meetings	27 • 7:15pm Choir	28 Mail Team 7 pm Bells 8 pm Brass		



Our Story

A simple prayer: "Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those who are without a bowl of soup to eat" is inspiring a youth-led movement to help hungry and hurting people around the world.

This prayer, delivered by Brad Smith, then a seminary intern serving at Spring Valley Presbyterian Church in Columbia, SC, gave birth to an idea. Why not use Super Bowl weekend, a time when people come together for football and fun, to also unify the nation for a higher good: collecting dollars and canned food for the needy? Youth could collect donations at their schools and churches in soup pots, and then send every dollar DIRECTLY to a local charity of THEIR choice.

The senior high youth of Spring Valley Presbyterian liked the idea so much they decided to invite other area churches to join the team. Twenty-two Columbia churches participated that first year, reporting their results so a total could be determined, and then sending all \$5,700 they had raised to area non-profits.

That was 1990. Since then, ordinary young people have generated an extraordinary more than \$100 million for soup kitchens, food banks and other charities in communities across the country. In addition, hundreds of thousands of youth have experienced for themselves the joy and satisfaction of giving and serving, inspiring people of all ages to follow their generous example.

"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 9:15 a.m., Adult Sunday School 9:15 a.m.

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

2019 Congregation Council Members:

Tina Blake, Mark Dreibelbis, Janine Dreibelbis, Ruth Ann Eyer, Lucille Gough, Wanda Hoherchak, Donna Long, Susan Lutz, John Smith and Michael Potts. 2 positions remain open.

Community Ministries @ Zion's

Mon nights: Cub Scouts 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts 7:30 p.m. – Pack/Troop 163. Many Tuesday mornings: 9:30 a.m. Homeschool Group 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

Hand Bells 7 p.m., and Brass 8 p.m. Thursdays Adult Choir Rehearsal Wednesday 7:15 p.m.

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. Feb. 21st at 11 a.m.

> Zion's Book Group: Feb. 21st at 7 pm Memory Café: Wed. Feb. 27th at 1 p.m.

Serve the Opportunity House Meal every third Friday of the month, Fri. Feb. 15

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.

Suicide Prevention- Text- ruOK to 484-816-7865, secure, anonymous communication.

Zion's Messenger

Saturday Worship: 5:00 p.m. Sunday Worship: 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.



February 2019

Pastor: Rev. Bruce Osterhout

Pastor's Cell: 610-914-2795 Church Phone: 610-562-3112

610-562-0461

Church Fax:

Church Email:

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. 한 Jesus is Lord & Savior 한 한 Honest & open communication 한 한 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

↑



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