



## Zion's Messenger April 2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

A few years ago, I ran into a colleague who had accepted a new call, and I asked him how things were going. His comment has stuck with me, as he described his new call as “transition” and said, “Aren't all calls ‘transition’ calls?!” It made perfect sense to me, as I have always said that pastors serve as long as their gifts and talents are needed in a place, but the congregation stays where God has planted them.

So it is interesting that my role is actually now that of Transition Pastor...serving Zion's in transition from the shepherding of one called pastor to the next called pastor and helping the leadership and members to keep moving ahead in the ministry and mission God has entrusted to you where you are planted.

If you were in worship the weekend of March 7 & 8, you heard me preach on John 3:16 and the need to keep working to process that at a deeper and deeper level throughout life. It was the following Tuesday that I met with the Council, and we agreed to work together in this time of transition at Zion's. I was encouraged by the resolve of your elected leaders to trust God for guidance and move ahead. In the congregation meeting later that week with Bishop Zeiser I sensed that same resolve to move ahead with obvious concern for the congregation's ministry.

By the end of that same week, it became evident that a pandemic was going to challenge us all in ways not any of us have ever been challenged in our lives! Being Church in a time of a world-wide pandemic, on top of transition and now the loss of an office secretary with serious health issues, is surely not how any of us saw this beginning!

I have a limited number of average hours (20) per week to serve in pastoral care and administrative needs, plus 2 weekends a month in worship. Fortunately, I can do a significant amount of work at home, especially now with the need to beat this pandemic. With hospitals and residential facilities closed to visitors, I have been able to touch base by phone with some folks at home and family members of those in facilities. Leaders and I are in touch. WELCA members are ready to help meet needs as safety permits.

We will get through this together! And we will do it by being unified in resolve to keep ministry and mission moving ahead, seeking God's will and relying on God's guidance and support. Please contact me with any concerns or needs you have or are aware of. If the call goes to voicemail, please leave a message. May you feel God's presence and care for you!

In Christ,

Pastor Diane LaFauci

Phone 484-794-5503

Just a few words to let you know a little about me... I am originally from Illinois, where I studied to teach French and English at Illinois State University. I studied my junior year in Grenoble, France, and later did some graduate study at the Sorbonne in Paris. I taught French and English in West Virginia after Doug and I were married and moved there in 1970. I did some graduate work in French at WVU.

We moved to PA in 1986, with our 2 children Jon and Mandi. Having sensed a call to ministry before the move, I entered the Master of Divinity program at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia. I served as Associate Pastor at St. John's in Kutztown for a little over 6 years, then as Pastor at Faith, Mt. Penn, for 16 years, retiring in September 2015. After a few months, I was asked to serve Christ Lutheran, Oley, in their time of transition.

Mandi and her husband Mike live in New Hampshire, where we treasure every opportunity to spend time with our 3-yr-old grandson Benjamin. Jon and Cara live in Shillington, and I often get to babysit our 8-month-old grandson Giovanni.

Doug and I live in Exeter Township near the Daniel Boone Homestead. We are blessed with a 9-yr-old Australian Cattle Dog mix whom we named Benjamin Boone (after Daniel Boone's uncle Benjamin, original owner of our land). Doug does engineer design work for a client involved in building bridges. We will celebrate our 50 years of marriage in August.

## April Volunteer Schedule



### GREETERS

5- 8:00am Lois Deturk  
5-10:30am Paul & Linda Weidner  
12- 6:30am Gary & Carol Rothermel  
12-10:30am David & Mary Mengle  
19-8:00am Robert & Vernie Noecker  
19 10:30am Richard & Donna Long  
26-8 :00am Leone Family  
26-10 :30am Carl and Carolyn Hollenbach

### ACOLYTES

5-8:00am – Brayden Heckman  
5-10:30am - Samantha Gruber  
12-6:30am - Brayden Heckman, Samantha Gruber  
12-10:30am - Kylee Koller, TBD  
19-8:00am - Chase Denatala  
19-10:30am – Kylee Koller  
26-8:00am - Dominic Leone  
26-10:30am – Chase Denatala

### LECTORS

5-8:00 am Faye Heckman  
5-10:30 am Jeanette Heckman  
12-6:30 am Susan Lutz  
12-10:30 am Eileen Puglia  
19-8:00 am Jeanette Heckman  
19-10:30 am Mark Dreibelbis  
26-8:00 am Joe Leone  
26-10:30 am Chris Brennan

**Altar Guild:** Wanda Hoherchak and Kim Olszweski

**Bread Baker:** Faye Smith

**Mail Team 4:** April 23<sup>th</sup>

**Opportunity House:** +++*Currently seeking a volunteer to be the captain of a team for*

**Opportunity House meals.** Please contact the Church Office, or Council President Wanda Hoherchak for more information.

## April Birthdays



2<sup>nd</sup> Lucas C Price  
3<sup>rd</sup> Hailey Denatala  
5<sup>th</sup> Carl Heckman  
7<sup>th</sup> Autumn Eyer  
9<sup>th</sup> Neil Hoffman  
Gerald O'Brein  
Codi Trabosh  
10<sup>th</sup> Rev Aaron Decker  
Mary Mengle  
Brandon Wahl  
Olivia Wilhelm  
11<sup>th</sup> Sherry Houser  
Liam Brennan  
13<sup>th</sup> Nicholas Clark  
Andrew Scheidt  
Bobbe-Jean Madeira  
14<sup>th</sup> Emily Kohler  
Russell Olszewski  
Matthew Bensinger  
16<sup>th</sup> Bryce Brennan  
Amy Smith  
Jacob Fegley  
18<sup>th</sup> Jessica Long  
19<sup>th</sup> Joan Sayer  
20<sup>th</sup> Veronica Heckman  
21<sup>st</sup> Coby Grugan  
Evelyn Hoppes  
Gloria Machemer  
22<sup>nd</sup> Jordan Smith  
23<sup>rd</sup> Michael Houtz  
25<sup>th</sup> Carol Justice  
26<sup>th</sup> Richard Miller  
27<sup>th</sup> Linda Bowling  
28<sup>th</sup> David Peters  
Aimee Disandro  
29<sup>th</sup> Noah Bensinger  
30<sup>th</sup> Karen Brown  
Daniel Geist  
Andrew Heckamn

Would you like your birthday listed in the newsletter? Please contact the Church Office today. 610-562-3112

## Shut in Mailing List

Mrs. Jane Francis  
Kutztown Manor  
120 Trexler Ave  
Room 146-D  
Kutztown Pa, 19530

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

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

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

Bertha Stewart  
1040 Berks Rd A233  
Leesport, Pa 19533

Peggy Marquette  
Sacred Heart: Suite 202  
4851 Saucon Creek Rd  
Center Valley, Pa 18034

Fern Stricker  
112 Main St  
Blandon, Pa 19510

Phares & Mabel Fry  
65 Fry Lane  
Auburn, Pa 17922

Myrle Werley  
Keystone Villa: Apt 305  
1180 Ben Franklin Hwy East  
Douglassville PA 19518

## Church Reports

### Treasurers Report

<b>2-29-20 Beginning Balance</b>	<b>-\$22,495.02</b>
General Offering YTD	\$24,358.27
Transfers	\$0
Special offering YTD	\$3,267.99
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$5,131.24</b>
Current Expenses YTD	\$36,907.61
<b>Balance</b>	<b>-\$31,776.38</b>

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### Volunteer Child Safety Clearance

Please make sure to get your updated clearances to the Church Office, for updating records and file folders.

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### Council Corner

The meeting was held on March 10<sup>th</sup> at 7pm with Marlene Druckenmiller and Pastor Diane LaFauci in attendance.

Pastor Diane LaFauci was the pastor that was leading worship the previous Saturday and Sunday services and was attending the meeting as she is the choice of Synod to become our Transitional Pastor until a called pastor could be chosen. She was interviewed by council then asked to leave the room so we could vote approval. After brief discussion with Deacon Druckenmiller on the contract, the vote was taken and she was unanimously approved. This was announced on Thursday March 12<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at the Bishop's Meeting in the Fellowship Hall to those in attendance. Let's welcome her warmly during this time of transition here as Zion's Lutheran Church of Perry

Township. Her contact information will be posted.

The Treasurer's Report continues to show expenses in the red by more than \$6,000 and discussion continues on further cost cutting measures to try and bring this back into the black for the year 2020. Please consider a giving increase to help alleviate our expenses.

Discussion on Family Promise for this year was also a topic for this council meeting and as we are having difficulty filling positions for volunteers for the overnight stays and the lack of a dedicated coordinator along with the fact that the date Family Promise chose coincides with the scheduled decorating schedule for this year's VBS, it was decided to not participate in the program for this year. That, coupled with the fact that we are in a transitional period with pastoral care it was a unanimous decision.

The Call Committee has been formed and they are ready to begin the process of hearing potential candidates to fill the position of full time Pastor. The members are Carol Rothermel, Daniel Brennan, Lana Leone, Samantha Gruber, Faye Heckama. Let's thank them for their volunteering to assist in choosing a new pastor for Zion's.

Thank you.

Brian Moroney

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### **FOOD PANTRY**

Next month our delivery is on Monday, April 13 at 9:00 am. Our distribution is on Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm with set up at 5:00. Please bring donations of canned goods, and pasta.

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### **Quilt KNOTTERS**

The Knotters will meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday in the month 9 a.m. -11 a.m. Volunteers are welcome. Squares are available in the Church Office to take along home and sew together.

***FAITH at the MOVIES SERIES*** continues on Tuesday, April, 28<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at The Hamburg Strand Theater. "I Can Only Imagine" is playing. Tickets are \$8 per person and includes a small popcorn/soda. Portions of the proceeds benefits the Northern Berks Ministerium's Emergency Assistance Fund and the Reading Berks Conference of Churches.

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The Sunday School children have decorated deli containers and they are available in the Narthex to receive your Lenten offerings. Please return them on Palm Sunday. This year the money will be given to the Northern Berks Emergency Fund.

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### **Consider online giving in 2020**

Visit <http://zionslutheran.org/donate/>. Please call the church office if you need assistance.

Please pick up your 2020 offering envelopes. If you do not see yours please call the church office to get a set. During this time, envelopes can also be mailed to the church. The mail is checked daily.

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## Coffee Bar News

We are asking for people to sign up to set up the coffee bar, to clean up the coffee bar, and to supply snacks for the Coffee Bar. The Sunday

School children enjoy hot chocolate and the adults enjoy having a cup of coffee. Please consider assisting with this fellowship activity. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside of the office.

We are also looking for donations of hot chocolate

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We continue to collect donations for the Zion's Parking lot project. Please use the Capital Funds Donation envelopes in the narthex.  
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## Graduation

We need your help gathering the names of the 2020 Zion's Youth who are graduating High School and College. Please phone or e-mail their names to the church office or sign the sheet in the church hall. We don't want to miss recognizing anyone!

### Zions Cemetery Meeting Schedule

Board Meetings: April 9, May 14 and June 11 at 9 a.m. @ Zion's Windsor Castle church.



Egg Hunt for ages 0 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade on Saturday, **April 11 at 9:30am**. Bring your basket and a friend!

**Friday, April 10** – Youth (grades 6-12) Egg Dyeing from 10:30am to 12:30pm

**Saturday, April 11** – Youth needed to hide eggs at 8:45am

Please pick up eggs on Palm Sunday, hard boil them and bring them back by 10:00am Friday.

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### EAGLE SCOUT AWARD CEREMONY

Eagle Scout Award Ceremony for Luke Mengel is tentatively (due to virus issues) set for Saturday, April 18th at 7:30 P.M. at Salem Bellemans church, the Scout troop he belongs to. The evening will begin with a dinner at 6:15 P.M. in the social hall. You must have paid reservations for this meal. Following the meal is a program and after that the Eagle Scout Award will be presented to Luke. As you might recall, Luke built the lovely, outdoor chapel at Zion's last year. His late grandparents Jim & Barbara Mengel were members at Zion's as well as Luke, his parents, siblings and extended relatives. We're so appreciative and proud of Luke's achievements & his project. Salem Bellemans phone number is 610-926-0461.



# LENT

Pray + Fast + Give

Worship and Music committee has decided not to have midweek Lenten services at our church this year while we are in a time of transition. We plan to resume this next year when we have an interim or a permanent Pastor. There are many options for mid-week worship for you to participate in, and we hope you take advantage of some of these services. We are continuing with Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday services.

Lent Services to Attend:

### **Option 1:**

St. Michael's multipurpose room (Sunday school attached to church)  
Covered Dish Meal 6pm. Church Fathers 6:45-7:30pm

### **Trial & Triumph**

Week 5: Revival – George Whitfield, Charles Spurgeon (The Power of God to Transform Hearts and Whole Societies)

### **Option 2:**

April 1: Epler's UCC  
April 9, Maundy Thursday: Salem Belleman's

### **Option 3:**

Belleman's has soup suppers at 5:30 and worship at 7. This year we're doing skits and dramatic readings for worship.

### **Option 4:**

2020 WEDNESDAY LENT SCHEDULE

*The Parables of Jesus*

Sponsored by a group of 5 area churches in Northern Berks

All Wednesday evening services begin at 7:00 p.m. Soup and bread will be served at 6:00 p.m.

April 1 – Salem Methodist Church, Shoemakersville  
April 9 - Holy Thursday - St. Luke's Union Church, Shoemakersville

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## Children's Day in Shoemakersville Parade

We would like to have a marching group and possibly a float in the Shoemakersville Children's Day Parade on **Saturday, June 6**. If you are interested in helping with this endeavor to promote our Vacation Bible School to the community, please contact Faye Heckman.

## Vacation Bible School

Rocky Railway Vacation Bible School is coming to Zion's!

**June 15-19 from 9:00am to 11:30am**

Ages 3 through those who completed 5<sup>th</sup> grade

Watch the May Newsletter for a registration form. If you would like to volunteer to help



with VBS, please contact Faye Heckman at [fayeheckman@gmail.com](mailto:fayeheckman@gmail.com) or 484-256-7513

## **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, has early dismissal 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 complete cancellations will be a decision made between the Pastor and the Council President. It is more likely that the Sunday morning schedule would be abbreviated: No 8 a.m. service and no Sunday School, which would give time for the parking lot to be cleared in the event of a Saturday evening snowstorm. For large groups, or for Sunday School and worship events, cancellations will be posted on Channel 69's website: [www.wfmz.com](http://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 meeting, simply call the Church at 610-562-3112.

**Easter Flower orders due by April 4. You can call the church office to order. Please leave a message on the answering machine.**

Azaleas \$12.00 (assorted colors)

Tulips \$5.00 (Red, Yellow, Pink, Purple)

Daffodils \$6.50 (Yellow only)



**During these uncertain times, please check the church's phone message, Facebook or Chanel 69 news for up to date cancelation changes.**

We will be advertising for a church secretary. Due to health issues, Kristen Kemery has resigned. The church office has limited hours at this time. If you need Pastoral Care, please leave a message on the church phone, as it is checked daily. Or contact Pastor Diane Lafauci at 484-794-5503. Thank you for your patience during this transition time.

## **“Zion’s Evangelical Lutheran Church of Perry Township”**

Like us on Facebook [www.zionslutheran.org](http://www.zionslutheran.org)

**Pastor Diane Lafauci 484-794-5503**

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

Church Office Email is [churchoffice@zionslutheran.org](mailto:churchoffice@zionslutheran.org)

**The Church Office has limited hours, please call first**

**Worship Services:** Saturdays at 5:00pm, Sundays 8:00am and 10:30am

**Check out [www.livinglutheran.org](http://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**

Administrative Assistant, TBD; Director of Music Ministry, Don Ryan; Hand Bells/Brass, Steven Turner; Custodians, Ruth Hoppes, Brian Moroney, and Karen Mengel; Treasurer, Sandra Moroney

### **2020 Congregation Council Members:**

President: Wanda Hoherchak, Vice President: Lucille Gough, Secretary: Tiffany Gruber, Donna Long, Tina Blake, Mark Dreibelbis, Janine Dreibelbis, Susan Lutz, John Smith, Michael Potts, Brian Moroney and Jeanette Heckman.

### **Community Ministries @ Zion’s**

Pack/Troop 163 meets on Mondays. CUBS 6:30pm Boy Scouts 7:30pm  
A.A. and Al-Anon meets on Tuesdays at 7pm A.A. meets on Saturdays at 7pm

### **Regular Weekly Activities - Please Join in**

Hand Bells: Thursdays at 6:30pm; Brass: Thursdays at 8:00pm  
Adult Choir Rehearsal Most Wednesdays 7:15pm/Some Tuesdays

### **Regular Monthly Activities – Please Join in**

Council Meeting every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday  
Quilt-Knotters: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 9 – 11am (You also can work at home!)  
Zion’s Senior Adult Fellowship every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday. March 19<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am.  
Serve the Opportunity House Meal every other 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday.

### **Food Distribution Volunteers are always welcome each month:**

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, from 7:30am to 11:30am at the Lutheran Church of Holy Trinity, Leesport.  
On the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday from 5:30-7:30pm. volunteers are always welcome at the Hamburg Middle School Pantry Distribution. Next distribution is on April 28<sup>th</sup>. **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](http://keystonemilitaryfamilies.com) 331 Main St. Shoemakersville.**  
More info on Facebook. Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturdays 10:00am to 2:00pm

- **Suicide Prevention- Text- ruOK to 484-816-7865, secure, anonymous communication.**
- **Visit [readyssetreadberks.org](http://readyssetreadberks.org) to tutor a second grader @ Perry or Tilden Elementary Schools**

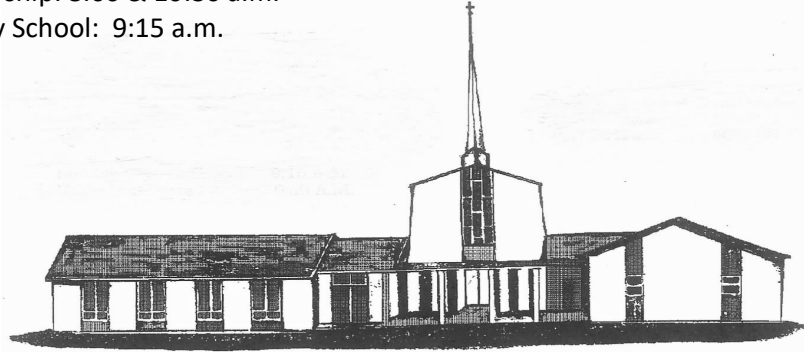


# Zion's Messenger

Saturday Worship: 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday Worship: 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

## April 2020

**Pastor:** Pastor Diane Lafacui  
Pastor's Cell: 484-794-5503  
Church Phone: 610-562-3112  
Church Fax: 610-562-0461  
Church Email: [churchoffice@zionslutheran.org](mailto:churchoffice@zionslutheran.org)  
Church Website: [www.zionslutheran.org](http://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

**Zion's Monthly Calendar April 2020**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7:15 pm Choir	2 6:30pm Bells 8:00pm Brass	3	4 5:00pm Worship 7:00pm A.A Meeting
5 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	6 Office Closed	7 9:30am Homeschoolers 7:00 pm A.A. Meeting	8 7:15pm Choir	9 9:00 am Cemetery Mtg 6:30pm Bells 7:00 pm Worship Service 8:00pm Brass	10 7:00 pm Worship Service	11 9:30 AM Egg Hunt 5:00pm Worship 7:00pm A.A Meeting
12 8:30am Worship 7:30 am Easter Breakfast 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	13 Office Closed	14 9:00am Knotters 9:30am Homeschoolers 7:00pm Council Meeting 7:00 am A.A. Meeting	15 7:15pm Choir	16 11:00 am Senior Group 6:30pm Bells 7:00 pm Property Meeting 8:00pm Brass	17	18 5:00pm Worship 7:00pm A.A Meeting
19 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	20 Office Closed May Newsletter Deadline	21 9:00am Knotters 9:30am Homeschoolers 7:00 pm A.A. Meeting	22 4-10 pm Hamburg Grange Fellowship Hall 7:00pm Welcome & Outreach Meeting 7:15pm Choir	23 Mail Team #4 6:30pm Bells 8:00pm Brass	24	25 5:00pm Worship 7:00pm A.A Meeting
26 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	27 Office Closed	28 9:00am Knotters 9:30am Homeschoolers 7:00 pm A.A. Meeting	29 7:15pm Choir	30 6:30pm Bells 8:00pm Brass	31	

