

# Zion's Messenger June 2021

June 2021

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

“Sing to the Lord a new song,” proclaims the Psalmist [Psalm 96.1]...and didn't it “feel like” a new song when we opened the hymnals and sang the hymns in worship on the Day of Pentecost!! The day commemorating the Holy Spirit giving birth and life to the Church!

How good to be able to be confident in lifting more restrictions that have been essential to our health and the health of the community! We rejoice with the continuing good news of diminishing COVID cases (and deaths!), making the lifting of some safety precautions finally possible, with hope of more to come.

We have been admittedly careful in efforts to return to in-person worship, and with everyone's help (especially the community getting vaccinated), we see more things possible in the coming weeks...DO stay tuned!! While the pandemic is not yet over, we continue to move ahead in planning and implementing meaningful worship.

We celebrate that Zion's is blessed with capabilities that not all congregations have, and, to be sure, blessed with leaders who have taken seriously the advice of science and medicine, as the country has moved through the pandemic. It is true that some congregations have taken the risk to gather earlier and to include singing, even without the mask mandate, but Zion's has felt the responsible thing for the overall welfare of the community was to stick to the guidelines for safe gathering, especially seeing how risking foregoing caution has caused some spreading of the virus right here in Berks county.

I say that Zion's is blessed because I know from networking with other pastors that not every congregation has either facility or resources to make in-person worship increasingly “normal” ...let alone possible! I recently ran into a colleague in the grocery store who tells me they are still recording and posting services—there is no internet in the church, so the pastor records the service and takes it home to upload it for viewing online. The congregation where my husband and I are members had its *first* in-person worship on the Day of Pentecost, but will only do in-person service on a Sunday, either outside or in the fellowship hall (the sanctuary cannot be adequately ventilated like the sanctuary at Zion's). Other pastors tell me they do not have tech-savvy members or the tech capability to do live online services. This, even after more than a year! And there are, indeed, some blessed with more tech savvy-ness and capability.

While we might want to think that all congregations ought to be able to do the same thing, the truth is that every congregation is different in capabilities. And while we might be tempted to judge what we do based on what someone else is doing, just as we look at our own family practices, so must we resist the urge to judge based on what others are doing.

We come now to the summer, with **9AM worship beginning the first Sunday in June**. Worship & Music continues to plan for ways to bring the worship experience into the familiar place that the soul remembers and yearns for. We look forward to **in-person VBS this month**, with Facebook posts for adults based on the VBS daily texts. We resume some gatherings and meetings as once happened here, but we will be wiser in how we do things and, hopefully, more thankful for how we see God working among us!

Clearly God has carried us through this time and wants the congregation at Zion's to prevail and be ready for the next leg of the journey. The vision in **Ezekiel 37.1-14** (from the readings for the Day of Pentecost—if you haven't read it, please make time to do so!) makes it a sure thing that **it is God's breath that gives life...new life...to the Church**. God's desire is to carry us through the trying and unforeseen times...and it is only with *our receptiveness to the breath* of God—the Holy Spirit—that we can work with Christ's help know the hope of genuine and true life! May God's people at Zion's say “AMEN!” (in Hebrew – “let it be so”!).

With hope in the Holy Spirit,

† *Pr Diane LaFauci*



## June Birthdays



2<sup>nd</sup> Wanda Hoherchak  
3<sup>rd</sup> Steven Shumaker  
Avery Gruber  
6<sup>th</sup> Pamela Seidel  
Carl Hollenbach  
7<sup>th</sup> Robin Epting  
8<sup>th</sup> Jaxon Seidel  
10<sup>th</sup> Huck Constenbader  
11<sup>th</sup> Crystal Koehn  
Jane Seidel  
12<sup>th</sup> Matthew Hoffert  
Jennifer Mazaika  
Devin Pond  
17<sup>th</sup> Richard Davis  
18<sup>th</sup> Damian Ulrich  
19<sup>th</sup> Jean Smith  
Nancy Wheeland  
20<sup>th</sup> Carol Smith  
21<sup>st</sup> Tracie Heckman  
Dennis Reinhart  
Carolyn Hollenbach  
John Williamson  
24<sup>th</sup> Hannah Hix  
25<sup>th</sup> Karen Heckman  
27<sup>th</sup> McKenzie Clark  
Brandon Noecker  
28<sup>th</sup> Dennis Heckman  
Carmen Long  
Ryan Wilhelm

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

## Shut in Mailing List

Phares & Mabel Fry  
65 Fry Lane  
Auburn, Pa 17922

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

David Peters  
Wyomissing Nursing & Rehab  
1000 E Wyomissing Blvd.  
Reading, PA 19611

Christine Ryan  
Laurel Center  
125 Holly Rd.  
Hamburg, PA 19526

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

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

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

If there is anyone you know who is unable to get out and would like to be added to our list, please contact the church office.

## Thank You

The Daub Family would like to thank our church family for the cards and calls of support after the passing of Robin's mother, Gloria Fisher. A special thank you to Pastor LaFauci for a beautiful service.

Thank you,  
Darren, Robin, Brett and Alannah Daub



## **Council Corner**

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Devotions were from “Devotions from the Front Porch” written by Stacy Edwards given by Brian Moroney

Treasurer’s Report - we finished the month of April ahead by \$2,648.70. Out of the ordinary expenses for the month included Church Windows Technical support \$419.00 and maintenance interior costs for first aid supplies \$108.24, and gold room carpet repair \$100.00

Pastor’s Report - in house baptisms have resumed as of May 9<sup>th</sup> with another scheduled for June 13<sup>th</sup>. Blessing of the Quilts and Prayer Shawls occurred in worship. Plans to meet with the Confirmation Class over the summer for Apostle’s Creed and 3 Sunday sessions with the Confirmation Class were held on the 10 Commandments.

There has been no action, communication or activity recently with the Call Committee. This will be revisited on a monthly basis for updates.

VBS is coming up in June and there is a need for crew leaders. Please contact Faye Heckman if you are interested in helping out! Dates for VBS are June 14 through 18 and will be in person at the church per CDC guidelines.

Currently there is no movement on the addition of a baby grand piano as it was announced in last months’ Council Corner; although there is still an ongoing search for one to add to the church’s equipment. Hope is still proceeding for a good donated unit.

Under Property projects - The lighting panel for the Sanctuary has been mostly repaired and is functioning again with more repairs need to complete this project. The cost for the repair is far below the estimate given in last months’ Council Corner (\$12,180.00) from PG Elite Lighting Service thanks to Russ Olszewski. The cost will be submitted and will be covered by our insurance company.

### **Financial Report**

We finished April in the black \$2,648.70.

Monthly – Income for April \$14,880.39

Monthly – Expenses for April \$12,231.69

The General Offering	\$11,569.00
Online Giving	\$ 2,286.15
Loose Change	\$ 76.00
Other Income	<u>\$ 949.24</u>
Subtotal	\$14,880.39

**Thank you for your continued support!**

#### **\*Correction – Coupon collection**

The **Welcome & Outreach** committee continues to collect coupons for the military. Military personnel are able to use the coupons for 3 months past the expiration date at their PX. Donated coupons must be cut apart before being brought to church.

**Thank you for your continued donations.**

### **Consider online giving in 2021**

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



#### **SIGN UP FOR CHURCH EMAIL**

If you are not receiving the weekly bulletin via email and you would like to, we encourage you to go to the churches website and use the Zion's Email Sign Up Form. The email address that you provide will only be used for church communications.

Thank you.

## **BULLETIN SPONSORS**

Sponsors are needed for bulletins and altar flowers. If you are interested in sponsoring either, please sign up on the corresponding paper on the bulletin board in the narthex. Bulletins - \$13.00, Altar Flowers, \$30.00

## **JUNE VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE**

**LECTORS:** If you would like to be a lector for the month of July and August, please contact Janine Dreibelbis at 610-488-7896. Thank you.



## **BABY GRAND PIANO NEEDED**

We are looking to add a donated baby grand piano to our sanctuary. Interested parties should contact the church at 610-562-3112 or by email at: [churchoffice@zionslutheran.org](mailto:churchoffice@zionslutheran.org).



**Feeding the  
Community**

## **FOOD PANTRY**

The Food Pantry is accepting monetary donations to help with their increased expenses. Checks can be

made out to Northern Berks Food Pantry and mailed to:

Sherry Strausser, Treasurer  
207 Beechwood Drive, Hamburg, PA 19526

**Thanks for helping members of our community to make ends meet!**

## ***Garden News***



*“Gardening is an instrument of grace.” — May Sarton*

Our 7<sup>th</sup> season has officially started! Please, listen for Sunday announcements or check Zion’s Facebook page for news of our work days. Previous volunteers will be called/emailed work day information. If you want to be put on the Garden volunteer contact list, please email us at: [communitygarden@zionslutheran.org](mailto:communitygarden@zionslutheran.org) or contact Lori at 610-401-1186.

**Your help is needed more than ever. Contact us!**

## **OPPORTUNITY HOUSE**

We will be doing the meals for Opportunity House bimonthly again this year. We will be purchasing or making food for July 16, Sept. 17 and Nov. 19.

WELCA will be donating \$200.00 for July to help offset the cost of the food. Due to the pandemic, Opportunity House does not want us to come down there to serve the food. We will be purchasing or making food for delivery.

Wanda will be reaching out to the volunteers shortly to find out if you are interested in assisting with the food planning. We are hopeful that by September and

November we will be able to make food for delivery again.

Thank you to all our volunteers!

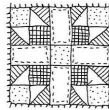
**ZION'S CEMETERY COMPANY OF PERRY**  
**TOWNSHIP INC.**

GUIDELINES FOR PLANTING AROUND TOMB  
STONES: EFFECTIVE MARCH 1 2021

1. No shrubbery or trees are permitted around tomb stones.
2. Small plants may be planted around tomb stones but must be cared for by the person who plants them.
3. Mulch is allowed around the plants.
4. There is a Spring Cleaning every spring in mid-March when all planters must be removed or planters will be removed by cemetery workers.

**The next monthly board meeting will be held on June 10, 2021 at 9:00 am. Meetings are held at Zion's UCC Church in the fellowship hall.**

Website: <https://zionsperrytwp.cemetery.network>

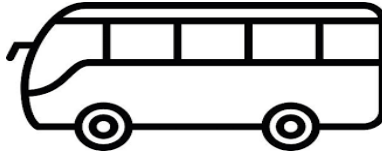


**ZION'S KNOTTER NEWS**

The Zion's Knorter Group knotted 120 quilts between December 2020 and May 2021. Our team delivered quilts to various different locations including: Opportunity House (9), Safe Berks (11), Mary's Shelter (11), Laurel Living Center (7) and the rest will be taken to New Windsor, MD to give to those in need in foreign countries. If anyone knows of places that could use knotted quilts, please let us know.

During the blessing of the quilts, we had asked for donations in turn for a quilt. We did exceptionally well and are thankful for all of the donations received. These donations will be put into the Zion's Knorter Group account for future use to purchase supplies. We appreciate all of the beautiful material that has been donated to our group to make quilts and are always willing to accept more material donations. We can always use extra hands to join our group.

Thank you, The Knotters



**Bus Trip to New Orleans**  
**October 2-10, 2021**

Hopefully with COVID soon behind us we will be embarking on a **trip to New Orleans, October 2-10**. As you know this trip was to have happened last year and postponed. Cost is \$1189.00 per person double occupancy with a \$250.00 deposit due with reservation. We will be staying overnight in Virginia after touring Mount Vernon. We will then continue on to tour the Billy Graham Library in North Carolina and continue on to our next overnight stop. 8 Breakfasts and all lodging included in price as are 3 dinners. I have arranged a guided tour of New Orleans, Houmas House Plantation and Gardens Tour, National WWII Museum. We will have a luncheon cruise aboard the Natchez in New Orleans on the Mississippi River. Dinner on your own tonight. On our way home we will be stopping overnight in Chattanooga, TN and go to the Grand Junction Station for a train ride on one of the original rail lines in Chattanooga. Then we will continue home after a wonderful trip with church friends to New Orleans. Movies will be shown, bingo played, trivia games and fun will be had by all.

Susan Lutz



**Mark your calendars for Vacation Bible School 2021!**

**June 14-18, 2021**

**9:00am – 11:30am**

We are planning for an in-person Treasured Vacation Bible School this summer! We will be following the Covid protocols in place at the time of VBS and hope to spend plenty of time outside, weather permitting. We will need the help and support of the ENTIRE congregation to make this week happen. We are in need of volunteers to help with VBS. Whether you have helped in the past or you never helped before, we can use you! Please contact Faye Heckman to help make this exciting week a reality for the children of Zion's. Share the registration forms with your family and neighbors. Early registrations are encouraged so we know how many children to plan for. Registration forms can be found on Zion's website ([www.zionslutheran.org](http://www.zionslutheran.org)) and mailed to the Church office, attention: VBS Director. Walk in registrations will also be accepted.

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

**Like us on Facebook**

**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**

**Sunday School:** Sunday 9:15 AM

**Worship Services:** Indoor recorded services Sunday 10:30 AM

**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, Kathryn Willoretta, Director of Music Ministry, Don Ryan; Hand Bells/Brass, Steven Turner; Custodians, Ruth Hoppes, Brian Moroney; Treasurer, Sandra Moroney

### **2021 Congregation Council Members:**

President: Tiffany Gruber, Vice President: Mark Dreibelbis, Secretary: John Smith  
Janine Dreibelbis, Lucille Gough, Heather Gring, Samantha Gruber, Faye Heckman, Susan Lutz, Brian Moroney

### **Community Ministries @ Zion’s**

A.A. meets on Tuesdays at 7pm A.A. meets on Saturdays at 7pm  
Cub Scouts meet on Mondays at 6:30 pm and Boy Scouts meet at 7:30 pm

### **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!)

### **Food Pantry Distribution:**

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, at 9:00 am at the Lutheran Church of Holy Trinity, Leesport  
Northern Berks Food Pantry distribution June 22, 2021, 6 pm to 7 pm at Hamburg Area Middle School

**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

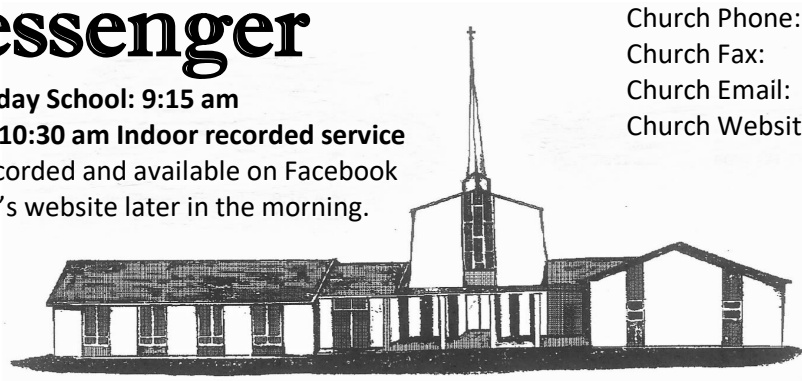
- **Suicide Prevention- Text- ruOK to 484-816-7865, secure, anonymous communication.**

# Zion's Messenger

Sunday School: 9:15 am

Sunday Worship: 10:30 am Indoor recorded service

Service will be recorded and available on Facebook  
and the church's website later in the morning.



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 JUNE 2021**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 7:00 pm A.A. Meeting	2	3	4	5 7:00pm A.A Meeting
6 9:00 AM WORSHIP HOLY COMMUNION BLESSING OF THE GRADUATES Service will also be recorded and posted on the church's website and Facebook.	7 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7:30 pm Boy Scouts	8 Knotters – 9:00-11:30 am  Council – 7:00 pm  7:00 pm A.A. Meeting	9	10 9 am Zion's Cemetery Board Meeting – Zion's UCC Fellowship Hall	11	12 7:00pm A.A Meeting
13 9:00 AM WORSHIP  Service will also be recorded and posted on the church's website and Facebook.  11:30 WORSHIP & MUSIC	14 VBS – TREASURED 9:00 am – 11:30 am  6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7:30 pm Boy Scouts	15 VBS - TREASURED 9:00 am – 11:30 am  7:00 pm A.A. Meeting	16 VBS - TREASURED 9:00 am – 11:30 am	17 VBS - TREASURED 9:00 am – 11:30 am  7 PM Property Mtg.	18 VBS - TREASURED 9:00 am – 11:30 am	19 7:00pm A.A Meeting
20 FATHER'S DAY 9:00 AM WORSHIP  Service will also be recorded and posted on the church's website and Facebook.	21 JULY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE  6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7:30 pm Boy Scouts	22 9:00-11:00 am Quilt Knotters  7:00 pm A.A. Meeting	23	24	25	26 7:00pm A.A Meeting
27 9:00 AM WORSHIP Service will also be recorded and posted on the church's website and Facebook.	28 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7:30 pm Boy Scouts	29 7:00 pm A.A. Meeting	30			