

Zion's Messenger - October 2021

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

October brings us into the heart of fall, with our Harvest Home celebration on October 17th. We give thanks to God for the abundance of blessing we have with our grateful response of offering of food for the local food pantries and fall flowers at the altar.

But we also recognize two special Sundays in the church calendar: the first Sunday as World Communion Sunday and the last as Reformation Sunday. Both have very much to do with the sacrament of Holy Communion. Historically, the first Sunday has been a time for Christian congregations to come to the Lord's Table, regardless of their particular practice and understanding of the sacrament: it is about *unity*... oneness in our understanding of the goodness of God and the unconditional love in the work of Jesus Christ.

Reformation Sunday, on the other hand, is very much connected to the most significant movement in the Church (and the world) after its establishment on the Day of Pentecost. It is about *reforming our understanding of what Christ intended the church to be*.

We Lutheran Christians understand that Martin Luther and other prominent reformers of the 16th century lifted up the doctrine of *Justification by Grace through Faith*, based on scripture [Romans 3.24]. The reformers, especially Luther, spoke to the grossly incorrect teaching of the Church at the time that served to control the people and fill the coffers of the establishment.

One of the most significant arguments among the reformers concerned the Sacrament of Holy Communion, which is part and parcel of our Reformation Sunday worship (not to mention regular Sunday worship). Sunday was established as Christian worship by the eye witnesses to Christ' life, death, and resurrection; it included the holy meal because Jesus had told them to do it in remembrance of him... and it was absolutely about Jesus giving his body in sacrifice to save us and his blood to wash over us and cleanse us from sin. The Church has continued that through the ages, as Sunday worship is all about Christ's victory over sin and death. We Lutherans preach and teach about Christ's victory and make sure we offer the sacrament as the undeserved gift Jesus gave us to us as comfort for our souls.

Sunday worship, when Lutherans first started coming to the new world, included the holy meal only when there was an ordained pastor to preside; hence the practice of four to six times a year until there were enough pastors to serve congregations. Unfortunately, that fostered a still poor understanding of the meal as an essential element of Sunday worship. What sets Christians apart from other religions is that God came to us in human form and became the only sacrifice that could spare us from eternal condemnation and the grave. For that reason, we treasure the opportunity for the weekly reminder that gives us hope and strength yet in this life.

As our spring study came to a close, the request came for a study on other religions, that we might better understand our neighbors' faith and strive for the peace that we long for. In late October we'll have another weekly study, based on the book **Families of Faith: An Introduction to World Religions for Christians** via ZOOM, to make it possible for as many to participate as possible. We'll offer Wednesday mornings and evenings again for all who are able to attend. Below is an order form for a book which will be the basis for our study and reflection. You may order a book even if you are not able to join the discussion. **Orders are needed by October 12.**

Blessings in deeper understanding of God's grace,

† Pr. Diane LaFauci

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Detach and submit with payment to office or in offering basket

Families of Faith: An Introduction to World Religions for Christians.

Receive my order for a copy with **\$13 per order**: checks payable to Zion's Lutheran Church.
Order due by Tuesday, October 12.

Number of books _____

NAME _____ PHONE _____



Council Corner

The Congregational Church Council met on Tuesday, September 14th at 7 pm.

We continue to discuss the church finances and attendance. Our Council President sent out letters to the congregation highlighting upcoming events and asking for feedback from the congregation on the churches plans going forward. We discussed the upcoming special meeting to be held on Sunday, September 19, 2021 with Executive Associate of the Bishop, The Rev. Rachael Dietz. This important meeting is designed to explore the Congregations needs as we search for a new pastor.

The Call Committee continues to review our Ministry Site profile and presented appropriate changes to the profile to council which we discussed it, made some minor modifications and sent it back to them with our approval.

Altar Guild is looking for new volunteers, please consider joining them in preparing the church for worship.

On September 12th we had a well-attended outdoor worship at 10:30 am which was followed by a fellowship lunch. Hawk Mountain Sanctuary will be doing a presentation to Sunday School on September 19th. The Scouts will soon be having their Popcorn sale. Please support them in this important fundraiser.

The churches wedding policy and fees with regards to the use of the church and fellowship hall were discussed.

Please continue to keep the church in your prayers as we navigate through the pandemic.

Respectfully submitted by John Smith.

Financial Report

We finished August in the black, \$2,706.65.

Monthly – Income for August	\$17,737.69
Monthly – Expenses for August	\$15,031.04

The General Offering	\$15,320.71
Online Giving	\$1,601.15
Loose Change	\$45.86
Other Income	<u>\$769.97</u>
Subtotal	\$17,737.69

Thank you for your continued support!

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 AND ALTAR FLOWER 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

LECTORS AND CAMERA

If you would like to be a lector or camera person for a Sunday worship service during the month of October, November or December, please contact the church office at 610-562-3112 or send an email to churchoffice@zionslutheran.org. **Thank you.**



SUNDAY SCHOOL

The next Christian Education committee meeting will be held on Tues., Oct. 19th at 7 pm.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Watch your bulletins for more information! We are always looking for new participants. We have great discussions on a variety of topics - both Bible Studies and more contemporary issues. If you have any topics you would like to learn about or discuss, please contact Janine Dreibelbis at mjdrei@verizon.net or 610-488-7896.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FEEDBACK

The Call Committee thanks everyone who turned in their vitality survey and everyone who came out for our holy conversation on Sunday, September 19. We appreciate your input! The Synod office will take our input and compile it into a document to include in our church profile for prospective candidates to view. We ask that you keep the Call Committee and our work in your prayers as we proceed down the path of calling a new pastor for Zion's.



Thank you for your support of our Favorite Foods sale. Many things have had to change over the past year and a half to adapt to the pandemic, but one thing has remained the same – the great support from members of Zion's! With your support, we will continue to provide assistance to program and property needs in our church and ministries in our community. Thanks again!

WELCA Celebrates National Gratitude Month

November is National Gratitude Month. WELCA will honor those who serve at Mary's Shelter by collecting items from their wish list for use with their clients (homeless teens and pregnant women).

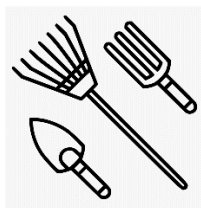
Items for teens: Gloves, scarves and socks

General use items: Bic razors
Shaving cream
Combs and brushes
Flash lights
Laundry detergent
Double A batteries

Kitchen items: Sandwich bags
Trash bags
Aluminum foil
Paper plates and cups

WELCA will be collecting these items in November until Sunday November 21. There will be a box in the narthex for you to place your new donated items.

Garden News



“Gardening is about enjoying the smell of things growing in the soil, getting dirty without feeling guilty, and generally taking the time to soak up a little peace and serenity.” — Lindley Karstens

October is starting, and we aren't finished yet. We continue to harvest the last of our tomatoes, peppers, beans, acorn squash, and cabbage. Soon there will be little left to do but Garden clean-up, which is a big job for us.

Please continue to look for work day announcements, and **consider coming out to help us with our Garden clean up.** Many hands make light work! In the meantime, please continue to pray for our ministry. Thank you!



ADULT CHOIR

The Adult Choir has resumed this fall after a long hiatus. Rehearsals are at 7:15 pm every Wednesday, except for the third week of the month when they rehearse on Tuesday. There are many anthems of different styles selected for the fall and early winter. Please consider making the Adult Choir Music Ministry your ministry to the church too. If you are interested in singing in the choir this season, please contact Donald Ryan at donryan715@gmail.com or 610-762-9322.



HARVEST HOME FOOD OFFERING

We will be having a **Harvest Home Service on Sunday October 17th**. All food donations will be given to the **Northern Berks Food Pantry**. **Please drop off any donations you want included in the display by Saturday October 16th at 9:00 AM.** The theme this year will be a fall celebration. Altar guild is looking for volunteers to assist with setting up the display. If you are able to assist, please contact Paul Weidner or Wanda Hoherchak. Thank you



HARVEST HOME MUMS

This year's Harvest Home service will be held on October 17, 2021. We will be taking orders for Mums. This year, we will be getting an assortment of colors instead of pre-ordering by color. Mums are \$4.50 each. Order forms are available in this newsletter, in our weekly bulletins, or on the table in the narthex. **The order form and payment should be returned to the church by October 10.** Mums should be picked up following worship on the 17th.

Our Town Foundation Membership

WELCA is proud to sponsor Zion's 2021 membership to Our Town Foundation, Hamburg's Community Revitalization Program. As part of this membership, Zion's has a listing on the hamburgpa.org website with a link to our website. As a first-time member, we had a profile article in the OTF Summer Newsletter. As part of our membership, we can also have FREE postings of our event flyers in the Hamburg Happenings emails, which currently has an email distribution of over 2000. To post our flyer, the event must be open to the public, not just Zion's members. See Eileen Puglia for more information, or for help to submit your flyer.

If you don't already receive Hamburg Happenings or the OTF quarterly newsletter emails, please go to hamburgpa.org to add your name to their email list.

ALTAR GUILD

Harvest Home Services will be held on Sunday, October 17th. We will be selling mums to decorate the nave. We will be receiving a variety of colors, and **cannot preorder by color this year**. The price of the mums will be \$4.50 each and a form will be available in the next few weeks. Also, volunteers will be needed to help set up for Harvest Home. Set up will be Saturday, October 16th, 9:00 AM. Please join us if you are available. Altar guild is looking for assistance. If you would like more information, please contact Wanda Hoherchak or Paul Weidner.

The next Altar Guild meeting will take place on Saturday November 27, 9:00 AM.

KNOTTERS NEWS

The Knotters thank you for all of your support!

The back packs were filled with the supplies at the church picnic and will be delivered to New Windsor, MD later in the fall.

COUPONS FOR THE TROOPS

Please continue to clip any coupons you receive and deposit them in the designated box on the table in the narthex. **The coupons must be cut out and can be expired (no more than 2 months) or non-expired.** They can be from newspapers, dispensers in stores, tear-pads and elsewhere as long as they say "manufacturers coupon" on them.

Thank you for your continued support.

GRIEF SHARE SUPPORT GROUP

A new Grief Share support group has started at Zion's Church, 770 Zion's Church Rd., Hamburg. **Meetings take place on Wednesday evenings through December. The meetings begin at 6:30 pm.** There is a \$20 charge for the workbook and other materials. For more details, there is a brochure available on our church bulletin board in the narthex.

To register and for more information, please call 610-562-2300 or email zionssecretary7@comcast.net

October Birthdays

3rd Amanda Gallagher
4th Nancy Seidel
6th Shelly Strunk
7th Jennifer Neuin
9th Wasyl Onulack, Jr.
10th Timothy Olszewski
12th Eleanor Dietrich
Heather Wagner
13th Neil Schaefer
Conner Troutman
14th Eileen Puglia
Lucille Gough
15th Matthew Deibler
16th Joanne Reidenhour
Isabella Denatala
17th Norman Dresher
19th Tanner Mish
20th Ruth Ann Adam
Aryton Miller
Barbara Reinhart
21st Alannah Daub
22nd Reece Heckman
Carl Sechler
24th Heather Gring
25th Abbie Smith
26th Arlene Mengel
Brianna Ulrich
Lillian Dusko
27th Steven Mengel
28th Nelson Eyer
30th Michael Heckman
Dawn O'Brien
Lori Smith
31st Linda Weidner

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
Personal Care Room 208
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.



We have been told that we can start taking food donations again! These are the items that are needed:

Tuna
Spaghetti Sauce
Kids Microwave Meals: Spaghetti O's, Soups, Mac & Cheese, Etc.
Condiments: Ketchup, Mustard, Relish

The Food Pantry is still 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!

Food Pantry Distribution:

On the 3rd Saturday, at 9:00 am at the Lutheran Church of Holy Trinity, Leesport

Northern Berks Food Pantry distribution is currently scheduled for Oct. 26, 2021. Due to ongoing construction at Hamburg Area Middle School, please call 610-562-8250 for information about distribution location.

OPPORTUNITY HOUSE

Opportunity House is allowing us to either order food to be delivered, or deliver and service it in person. The captain for November will be Eileen Puglia, along with Donna and Richard Long.

Thank you everyone for your continued support.

ZION'S CEMETERY COMPANY OF PERRY TOWNSHIP INC.

The next monthly board meeting will be held on October 14, 2021 at 9:00 am. Meetings will be held at Zion's UCC Church in the Fellowship Hall.

Hurricane Ida, Flooding, Wind Damage, and the Efforts to Clean Up

The remnants of Hurricane Ida have impacted the eastern part of the country, and noticeably in our own eastern PA. Lutheran Congregational Services (on our synod territory) is part of the Lutheran Disaster Response network across the country and focusses on helping area victims of hurricane/tornado/flood damage by training and mobilizing volunteers and securing equipment and supplies to help folks recover from devastating events.

A basket is provided to receive checks and cash offering to be forwarded to LCS.

CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Lutheran Disaster Response—Eastern PA

If you wish to mail your offering directly, here is the address:

Lutheran Disaster Response—Eastern PA

Lutheran Congregational Services

7002 Butler Pike

Ambler, PA 19002

FIRST COMMUNION

Is your child curious about Holy Communion? asking why we do this in worship? asking why only adults and older children are served? asking why they only receive a “blessing” when they come to the rail with you? wondering if this is something they have to be certain age for, or earn?

We wouldn't invite friends to our home and only feed the adults...neither does God!! Baptism and Holy Communion are **Means of Grace—GIFTS** that *cannot be earned or deserved*—ways of helping ALL people, to know that God loves us unconditionally. We don't have to be good enough, old enough, or knowledgeable enough to receive God's blessing and be served at the Lord's Table!

If you're wondering if your young child might be ready to receive the Sacrament, please talk with Pastor about bringing your child for a time of preparation (3 sessions, flexible scheduling), that they may receive Holy Communion with you for the first time on Reformation Sunday, Oct. 31 (All Saints Sunday, Nov. 7, if Reformation cannot work for your family—or yet another Sunday).

.....detach.....

FIRST COMMUNION

NAME(S) of CHILD(REN) _____

Parent/Guardian signature _____

Phone(s) _____

3 sessions of preparation with short videos, take-home papers, practice and “tasting” time,

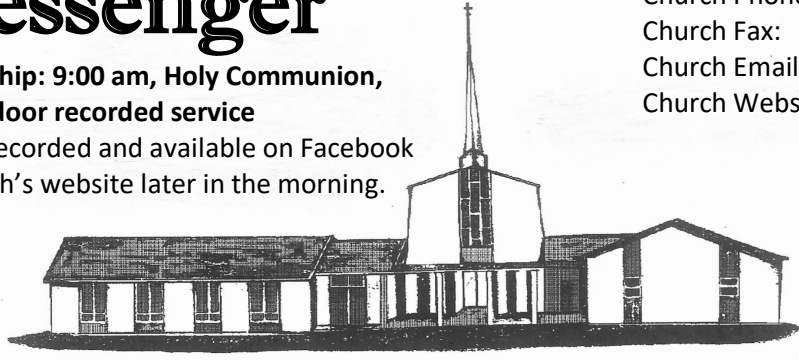
DAYS that usually work _____

TIMES _____

Zion's Messenger

**Sunday Worship: 9:00 am, Holy Communion,
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 †

October 2021

Pastor: Pastor Diane LaFauci

Pastor's Cell: 484-794-5503

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

Zion's Monthly Calendar - OCTOBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
**10:30 Service will be recorded and posted on the church's website and Facebook EVERY SUNDAY					1	2 7:00 pm A.A Meeting
3 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM HOLY COMMUNION 9:15 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL	4 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7:30 pm Boy Scouts	5 7:00 pm A.A. Meeting	6 7:15 PM CHOIR REH.	7	8	9 7:00 pm A.A Meeting
10 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM HOLY COMMUNION 9:15 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL	11 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7:30 pm Boy Scouts	12 9:00-11:30 am Knotters 7:00 pm Council 7:00 pm A.A. Meeting	13 7:15 PM CHOIR REH	14 9:00 am Zion's Cemetery Meeting – Zion's UCC Fellowship Hall 7:00 PM ACTIVE SHOOTER PRESENTATION	15 GOLD ROOM RENTAL	16 SET UP FOR HARVEST HOME 7:00 pm A.A Meeting
17 HARVEST HOME SERVICE 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM HOLY COMMUNION 9:15 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL	18 NOVEMBER NWSLTR DEADLINE 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7:30 pm Boy Scouts	19 7:00 CHRISTIAN ED MTG 7:15 PM CHOIR REH 7:00 pm A.A. Meeting	20 LIFELINE SCREENING 8:00 AM – 5:30 PM	21 7:00 PM PROPERTY MTG.	22	23 7:00 pm A.A Meeting
24 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM HOLY COMMUNION 9:15 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL	25 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7:30 pm Boy Scouts	26 9:00-11:30 am Knotters 7:00 pm A.A. Meeting	27 7:15 PM CHOIR REH	28	29	30 7:00 pm AA Meeting
31 REFORMATION SUNDAY 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM HOLY COMMUNION 9:15 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL						