

Zion's Messenger - September 2021

¹⁷Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

¹⁸In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. [James 1.17-18]

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Fall traditionally means planning for the coming year in most congregations. Ministry areas are asked to submit to the Finance Ministry group their projected needs, and the Finance group is charged with putting all the figures into a projected budget considering what ministry has required in a previous 12-month period, as well. Not the most fun thing the church leaders have to deal with, but certainly a necessary thing...because ministry does cost money.

The passage from James appointed for reading in worship on the last Sunday in August speaks to giving for the overall ministry of a congregation as a matter of faith and trust and **grateful response to God** for what God has done for us and how God counts on us.

The culture we live in is primarily a “pay-as-you-go” culture, which wreaks havoc when a church tries to plan its budget for the fiscal year. You pay for a movie when you actually go to a movie theater. You pay for food you actually buy at the grocery store or that you actually order in a restaurant. You pay for the gas you actually have to put in your tank to be able to get where you need/want to go. You pay a monthly fee to keep your cable, a monthly fee to keep the lights on, a monthly fee to keep the house warm. You pay a monthly fee to keep your cell phone active. **The reality today is that congregation health is unfortunately impacted by the pay-as-you-go culture.**

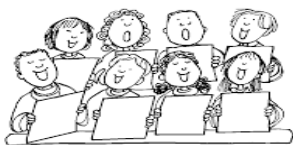
It is also impacted by the lingering Old Testament ancient cultures notion of “limited goods.” In the time of Jesus, it was thought that if anyone prospered financially or physically or even spiritually, it must be at the cost of someone else’s resources. In worship these past few weeks, the invitation to the Lord’s Table has been prefaced with the words “Christ has set the table with **more than enough for all.**” And John’s gospel chapter 6 speaks about the feeding of the 5,000, saying that there were *baskets* of food left over! Enough for those yet to come (12 baskets symbolizing enough for the 12 tribes of Israel/ALL the people of God).

My mother-in-law became a model for me in deciding our giving promise to the congregation where we were members early in our marriage. My father-in-law was long retired. Mary LaFauci was active in her church, giving of her time and talents. And she *tithed* from her Social Security and from the wages she earned in her part-time job making slip covers. Somehow, they always seemed to manage their household needs.

That did not get lost on me! I was the primary grocery shopper and bill payer from the time our kids were little. And I was the one who wrote the offering check each week. Watching the faithfulness of my mother-in-law, I started to give an increasing percentage of our income, and I covered the Sundays that we were away from Sunday worship, as well. When I quit my job to go to seminary fulltime, we did *not* reduce our giving! We still managed, and my trust in God to provide grew. I still think of Mary LaFauci when we plan our giving, and I give thanks to God for the example she set for faith and trust in God to provide.

How far Zion’s has come since “parking-lot” worship services a year ago! And now the plan is to have two Sunday services—8 & 10:30am—beginning in September on the Sunday after Labor Day. Choir rehearsals have begun, and the brass and bells are planning to resume the pre-pandemic schedule. Sunday School, Confirmation, and Adult Bible Study are set to resume. And the hope is to be able to call a new pastor. It absolutely depends on how much the congregation supports ministry to happen and thrive in grateful response to God.

Trusting God to provide,
† *Pastor Diane LaFauci.*



The Adult Choir will be resuming this Fall after a long hiatus. The Adult Choir rehearses at 7:15 pm every Wednesday, except for the third week of the month in which 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. The next rehearsals will be Wed., Sept. 1 and Wed., Sept. 8, 2021.



Council Corner

Church council met on August 10th. The meeting was opened with devotions titled, “Servant Leadership”.

Council continues to review our finances each month. Dan Brennan attended this month’s meeting again to provide information from the finance committee. This is a continuing discussion that will be taking place each month as we continue to look at our finances.

Since we will be starting with two worship services on Sunday, September 12th, our council teams will be shifting slightly and go to two person teams. You may be approached by a council member on a Sunday morning to help with services as we will need three people for each service on communion Sundays.

Our church picnic is being held on Sunday, September 12th. We will plan to have an outdoor worship service at 10:30 AM. Please bring your lawn chairs. If we have bad weather, the service will be held indoors. The luncheon will look a little different than in the past as the Fellowship committee will provide the food and drinks for this

event. The food will be placed in smaller dishes so you can just take what items you would like.

Fall deep cleaning date has been changed to Saturday, September 18 at 9:00 AM. If you are able to help with this event, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex.

Sunday, September 19th at 9:15 AM – Holy Conversation over donuts, coffee, & tea in the fellowship hall. The purpose of this meeting is to get your feedback during the pastoral transition process to help us in our search for a new pastor. Your feedback is needed, please plan to attend this event.

The WELCA group is having a Favorite Bazaar Foods Sale on Saturday, September 25th. Pick up is 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM. This is a drive thru event. Orders and payment must be turned in by Wednesday, September 15.

Hawk Mountain Sanctuary will be doing a presentation for Rally Day on Sunday, September 26 at 9:15 AM in the fellowship hall. The presentation is titled, “Raptors over the Ridge” all are welcome to attend this event.

We will be receiving a special offering on Sunday, September 26 to benefit Lutheran Disaster Response.

Zion’s is also looking to gather some volunteers to help at the Potato Project on Sunday, October 3 from 1:00-5:00 PM. If you are able to help with this event, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex.

Financial Report

We finished July in the red, \$2,476.81.
 Monthly – Income for July \$ 8,473.12
 Monthly – Expenses for July \$10,949.93

The General Offering	\$5,640.00
Online Giving	\$1,526.15
Loose Change	\$ 20.00
Other Income	<u>\$1,286.97</u>
Subtotal	\$8,473.12

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 church's 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

LECTORS AND CAMERA

If you would like to be a lector or camera person for a Sunday worship service during the month of September, October, November or December, please contact the church office at 610-562-3112.

Thank you.

Thank You!

Words cannot express the gratitude we feel from the outpouring of love and concern received from so many. Your generosity overwhelms us. Please know that your kindness has sustained our spirits through this most difficult time. We are hopeful again as we begin rebuilding our lives. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!!

Russ and Jeri Diesinger

YOUR FEEDBACK IS NEEDED!

Please plan to join us on Sunday, September 19th at 9:15 AM in the fellowship hall to have some holy conversation over donuts, coffee and tea. The purpose of this gathering is to get your feedback during the pastoral transition process to help us in our search for a new pastor. Your feedback is needed, please plan to attend.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School is set to begin on Sunday, Sept. 12 at 9:15 am.

We welcome Tiffany Gruber and Heather Gring as teachers in the Nursery. A helper is still needed in these classrooms. Please consider helping out.

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

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

The adult Sunday School class will not be starting in September. We hope to start later in the fall. Watch your bulletins and October newsletter 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.



Friends and families are invited on Sun., Sept. 26th at 9:15 am to Zion's Rally Day. Representatives from Hawk Mountain will present their program RAPTORS OVER THE RIDGE and they will be bringing at least one bird.

Won't you join us in the Fellowship Hall for this special opportunity?

Garden News



Garden as though you will live forever. William Kent

“Gardening is cheaper than therapy and you get tomatoes.” — Unknown

August has come to an end and we have donated more than a ton of produce to area food pantries. Our plants have been thriving, and we had enough yellow squash for all of the local food pantries (and so much more!). Our beans continue to produce, and the tomatoes are ripening daily. We look forward to our acorn squash that is almost ready for harvest and our fall crop of cabbage that we have planted.

Please continue to listen for Sunday announcements or check Zion's Facebook page for news of our work days and to check our gardening progress.

Our volunteers continue to be emailed work day information. If you want to be put on the Garden volunteer contact list, please email us at communitygarden@zionslutheran.org or contact Lori at 610-401-1186. Please join us!

NOTE: ORDER FORM IN THIS NEWSLETTER!



CHURCH PICNIC

We will be having the Church picnic on **Sunday, September 12 following the 10:30am outdoor service**. In order to make the picnic more Covid-friendly, there will NOT be a covered dish this year, instead the meal will be prepared by members of the Fellowship Committee. Please stay after the service and enjoy hamburger BBQ, hot dogs, macaroni salad, pasta salad, baked beans, chips, beverages and cupcakes and ice cream for dessert. Bring a lawn chair or picnic blanket to enjoy your lunch outside in the fresh air.



“Favorite Foods” Sale

WELCA is holding a drive-thru food sale of some of your favorite bazaar foods. Enclosed in this month's newsletter is an order form. Barbecues, soups, salads, and apple dumplings will be available. Pre-order and pay by Wednesday, September 15th and then drive-thru and pick up your food on Saturday, September 25th from 11am until 2pm. There is an order form included in this newsletter.

There are extra order forms in the narthex, and on Zion's website and Facebook page. Order forms and payment can be put in Sunday's offering basket, dropped off at the church office, or mailed to the church, c/o WELCA. Checks are payable to WELCA.

Thank you in advance for your support!

The Women of WELCA



BAKED GOODS NEEDED

WELCA is accepting donations of baked goods for their Favorite Foods sale, to be sold on Saturday, September 25th when food is picked up. Baked good donations can be dropped off in the kitchen on Friday 9/24 from 9-1 pm or Saturday 9/25 from 10-11am.

Thanks so much!



Fall Deep Cleaning: UPDATE !!

Saturday, September 18th at 9:00 AM

We have changed our fall cleaning date to Saturday, Sept. 18. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending a fall cleaning day. A sign-up sheet has been posted in the narthex. We are hoping to tackle some much-needed projects and cleaning to prepare our church and Sunday School wing for our return normal service times and Sunday School that will be starting the following day. **We hope you will come out and help us spruce up the church!**

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.

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

KNOTTERS NEWS: UPDATE!!

The Knotters thank you for all of your support!

We now have everything we need for the backpacks. The back packs will be filled with the supplies at the upcoming church picnic on Sept. 12 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.**



September Birthdays

- 1st Donna Long
Dwight Heckman
- 2nd Jay Wheeland
- 5th Mark Price
- 6th Darrell Kohler
Owen Neuin
- 7th Angela Gough
Doris Gough
Venus Fioravanti
Korey Onulack
Linda Stewart
- 8th David Klemmer
- 10th Brenda Ramich
- 11th Andrea Heckman
- 13th Myrle Werley
Nathan Bender
- 14th Connie Reinhart
- 15th Dennis Maderia
Lisa Fegley
- 16th Thomas Scheidt
Jennifer Hoshauer
- 18th Karen Himmelberger
- 19th Reece Hawk
- 20th Grace Ketner
Chris Mengel
Jamie Scolastico
- 22nd David Long
Nancy Pursell
Layne Schroeder
- 23rd Toni Herr
Jason Seidel
Kyle Pursell
Brittany Noecker
Maylynn Wagner
- 25th Marvin Adam
Paul Engle
- 27th Ruth Ann Eyer
- 28th Samantha Gruber
- 29th Barbara Gehringer
Woodrow Lutz
Katie Stefan
- 30th Allen Merkel
Craig Reinhart

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

Birthday Card Shower

Myrle Werley will be turning 95 on September 13th. Her address is listed below in the shut-in mailing list. Please consider sending her a card to cheer her on her special day. Thank you.

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.

GRIEF SHARE SUPPORT GROUP

A new Grief Share support group will be starting on **Wed., September 1** at Zion's Church, 770 Zion's Church Rd., Hamburg. **The meeting will begin at 6:30 pm. The second meeting will be on Sept. 8 at 6:30 pm.** There is a \$20 charge for the workbook and other materials. There will be a brochure available on our church bulletin board in the narthex.

To register and for more information, please call 610-562-2300.



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 Sept. 28, 2021. Due to ongoing construction at Hamburg Area Middle School, please call 610-562-8250 for information about distribution location.

OPPORTUNITY HOUSE

A **BIG** thank you to WELCA for donating \$200.00 per month toward the food that was ordered and delivered in March, May, and July. Zion's will be providing food for **Sept. 17** and **Nov. 19**.

Opportunity House is allowing us to either order food to be delivered, or deliver and service it in person. Wanda will captain the team for September, along with Paul Weidner. 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 September 9, 2021 at 9:00 am. Meetings will be held at Zion's UCC Church in the Fellowship Hall.

“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

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 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 2nd Tuesday

Quilt-Knotters: 2nd & 4th Tuesday 9 – 11am (You also can work at home!)

Food Pantry Distribution:

On the 3rd Saturday, at 9:00 am at the Lutheran Church of Holy Trinity, Leesport
Northern Berks Food Pantry distribution Sept. 28, 6 pm to 7 pm.

Visit the Hamburg Salvation Army Family Thrift Store – Take Clothing Donations there – Volunteer – Shop

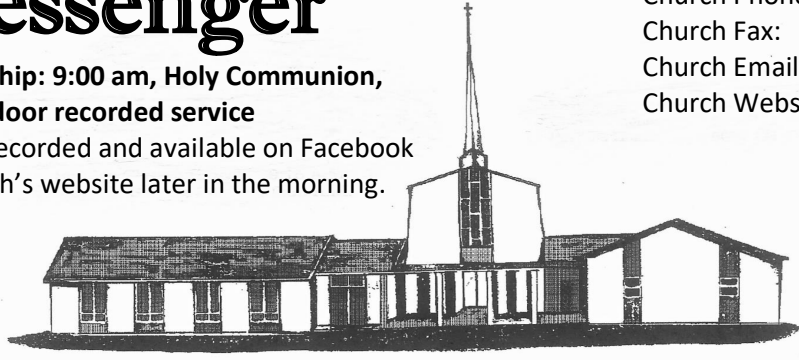
All Veterans can get help at keystonemilitaryfamilies.com 331 Main St. Shoemakersville.
More info on Facebook. Hours: Wednesday and Saturdays 10:00am to 2:00pm

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

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 †

September 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 - SEPTEMBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
**Service will also be recorded and posted on the church's website and Facebook EVERY SUNDAY			1 7:15 PM CHOIR	2	3	4 7:00 pm A.A Meeting
5 9:00 AM HOLY COMMUNION	6 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7:30 pm Boy Scouts	7 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM GOLD ROOM RENTAL 7:00 pm A.A. Meeting	8 7:15 PM CHOIR	9 9:00 am Zion's Cemetery Meeting – Zion's UCC Fellowship Hall	10	11 HALL RENTAL 7:00 pm A.A Meeting
12 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM HOLY COMMUNION 9:15 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS PICNIC FOLLOWING 10:30 AM OUTDOOR WORSHIP HALL RESVRD	13 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7:30 pm Boy Scouts	14 9:00-11:30 am Knotters 7:00 pm Council Mtg 7:15 PM CHOIR 7:00 pm A.A. Meeting	15	16 7:00 PM WELCA MTG 7 PM PROPERTY MTG.	17 GOLD ROOM RENTAL	18 FALL CLEANING DAY 7:00 pm A.A Meeting
19 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM HOLY COMMUNION 9:15 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL HALL RENTAL	20 OCTOBER NWSLTR DEADLINE 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7:30 pm Boy Scouts	21 7:00 pm A.A. Meeting	22 7:15 PM CHOIR	23 HALL & KITCHEN RENTAL 7:00 PM WORSHIP & MUSIC MTG	24 HALL & KITCHEN RENTAL	25 HALL & KITCHEN RENTAL 7:00 pm A.A Meeting
26 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM HOLY COMMUNION **SPECIAL OFFERING- LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE 9:15 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL-RALLY DAY SPEC PRES.	27 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7:30 pm Boy Scouts	28 9:00-11:30 am Knotters 7:00 pm A.A. Meeting	29 7:15 PM CHOIR	30		