

Zion's Messenger - November 2021

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

November, even with its cooler temperatures and shorter hours of daylight, brings anticipation of wonderful fall days, especially Thanksgiving with family gatherings...which may, indeed, be more possible this year with so many being vaccinated!

That being said, the wisdom at Zion's is to still be careful. We still pay extra attention to keeping people safe and confident to gather for worship and Sunday School and meetings and events. We are blessed to be able to gather in the sanctuary because of its size and ventilation. There are several churches in Berks where that is still not the case! We at Zion's have much to be thankful for, just being able to gather together in worship and to resume some of the activities that vaccinations have made possible since this pandemic that has changed so many lives...and taken so many lives.

On the Sunday before Thanksgiving, we will focus on the many blessings we do enjoy because of God's goodness as we gather in Thanksgiving. For those who are coming to in-person worship—and we do see more willing to gather, we can reflect together on the blessings we do have in and through the ministries at Zion's. It will be a Day of Thanksgiving to God, a fitting way to end the church year!

Thanksgiving is my family's favorite holiday. As much as my own family would like to resume an over-40-year tradition with another family, it looks like a ZOOM gathering with the 20-some of us again this year because of vulnerability of those with health issues and children not yet eligible for a vaccine.

So, it will just be Doug and me with our two children and their families at the table (cannot wait to have both grandsons together here!!). In order to not stress us all out, our son and daughter and their families will go to their in-laws on Thanksgiving Day, and I will have a leisurely day of cooking and watching the National Dog Show and decorating for Christmas (so my New Hampshire grandson can enjoy Grammy & Poppy's tree and the special early delivery from Santa for the boys to enjoy together). Friday, then, is our family gathering, and our son's and daughter's families bring special dishes and desserts to share, making the meal complete. We have much to be thankful for just being able to be together!

Have you ever thought about how worship is like a family Thanksgiving gathering? God our Father welcomes us into the House of the Lord with open arms. We have a time of sharing and hearing especially from our Host, God in Christ, how much we are loved and cherished. As in many family gatherings, we rejoice together in activity and song, and we bring offering to share for the ministry and mission, that our spirits and the spirits of others may be fed.

The table is set, the finest food and drink prepared by the Host is brought to the table. We are invited to the Lord's Table, as the prayers of The Great Thanksgiving are offered, and we partake of the meal. Our souls fed and nourished by the meal and the time together with sisters and brothers in Christ in the presence of the Host, we are ready to depart, receiving the Host's hug in a special parting blessing. We depart knowing that House of the Lord is always open to welcome us...and the Host will embrace us again with open loving arms...and there will be the meal at the table again, that we might be spiritually fed and strengthened for the journey.

May this time we share bring us more and more Thanksgiving blessings as we look ahead at what is yet to come.

Thankful always,
† *Pastor Diane LaFauci*

NOTE: Watch for info in November bulletins and on Zion's Facebook page about worship services beginning on the First Sunday of Advent, November 28.



Council Corner

- We still owe \$15,000 to ourselves (VanGuard account) for the parking lot
- Annual Meeting date was set for January 23 with a snow date of January 30
- The overwhelming majority of church attendees are vaccinated
- It has been recommended to not have a Thanksgiving Eve service this year, but we are hoping to have in-person Christmas Eve services
- WELCA is going to pay for the new carpet in the Gold Room
- The AED has new pads and batteries and the fire extinguishers have been inspected and are up to code
- Active Shooter presentation by Trooper Boehm on October 14
- Angel Tree will be having tags in the traditional format - look for them in November
- The sound system was evaluated and the entire system is obsolete. We are waiting on a price to replace the entire system. Full replacement will take 6 months to a year because of supply issues. The company can set us up with a loaner digital processor that will improve the current system until the new one is installed. Replacing the sound system is a priority of the council.

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

Respectfully submitted by Faye Heckman.

Financial Report

We finished September in the black, \$765.45.

Monthly – Income for September \$12,874.75

Monthly – Expenses for September \$12,109.30

The General Offering	\$ 9,745.00
Online Giving	\$ 2,160.78
Loose Change	\$ 98.00
Other Income	<u>\$ 870.97</u>
Subtotal	\$12,874.75

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 November or December, please contact the church office at 610-562-3112 or send an email to churchoffice@zionslutheran.org. **Thank you.**

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.

NOW HIRING

Paid position for one morning or afternoon per week to clean the Sunday School wing. Contact the church office at 610-562-3112 to indicate your interest.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE:

As we go into the winter months, please keep your eyes open for schedule changes. Changes will be announced in the bulletins, online and in newsletters.



Special thank you to my church family for the prayers, cards, and well wishes I received.

Mary Mengle

ALTAR GUILD

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

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

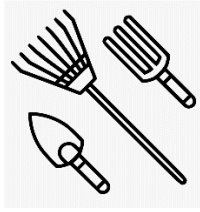
Kitchen items: Sandwich bags
Trash bags
Aluminum foil
Paper plates and cups

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.



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.



Garden News

Harvest: isn't just the act of picking a vegetable from the vine, it is a season for collecting the crops and celebrating the plentiful gifts our garden has brought us.
~ www.theeducatorsspinonit.com

November is here, and the Garden is being put to rest. Our 7th season has ended, and we have harvested over two tons of vegetables to donate to local food pantries and organizations, including the Northern Berks (Hamburg) Food Pantry, Schuylkill Valley Food Pantry, Keystone Military Food Pantry, Hamburg Salvation Army, Wyndcliffe Apartments, Friend Inc., and Helping Harvest Food Bank.

We tried a new technique this year, covering the Garden with a special landscaping fabric after the Garden was tilled. This helped keep down the weeds, and keep the produce cleaner. The tomatoes and beans seemed to be especially fond of it!

We continue to be thankful for our faithful volunteers, both returning volunteers and some new volunteers this season. Without the support of congregation and community members, we would not be able to continue this much needed ministry.

Please continue to pray for our ministry. Thank you!

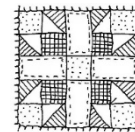


We are once again helping the Salvation Army to collect gifts for children and seniors this holiday season. **You should be able to choose a tag starting on Sunday, November 14. All gifts and tags need to be returned by Sunday, December 5 for pick up the following day by the Salvation Army.**

Thank you for helping to make someone's holiday a little brighter!



The Shoemakersville Lion's Club is sponsoring a community Blood Drive on **Monday, Nov. 22, 2021 here at Zion's from 12:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Appointments are required.** To schedule an appointment, please call **Brian Moroney at 610-562-7536** or visit **GIVEaPint.org** and use **Sponsor Code 3186.** Your blood donations save lives.



KNOTTER'S NEWS

We are busy cutting patches, sewing tops together and knotting the quilts at church. **We will be blessing quilts again on November 21st.** The donations that we receive are all used for quilt material, sheets and blankets.

We are always looking for new Knotters to help out. There are always patches available in the office. We meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month to knot from 9 am to 11 am.

Please join us!



FOOD PANTRY

Thank you for the generous donation of food from your Harvest Home service. With your support, we were able to serve 44 families this month.

These are some of the items that are needed for the upcoming holiday season:

**Flour
Sugar
Cake and cookie mixes
Canned pumpkin
Baking soda
Baking powder
Spices**

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

The next Northern Berks Food Pantry distribution is currently scheduled for Tues., Nov. 16 from 6 pm to 7 pm. We will be staying at the Hamburg Area High School until the new year. Recipients should use Exit 9. Please call 610-562-8250 for information about distribution location.

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.

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 November 11, 2021 at 9:00 am. Meetings will be held at Zion's UCC Church in the Fellowship Hall.

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



November Birthdays

- 1st Vernie Noecker
Elaine Schroeder
- 2nd April Reitenauer
Brett Stefan
- 3rd Jeanette Heckman
- 5th Jade Heckman
Donna Miller
Janelle Kramer
- 6th Paul Weidner
Sherry Reppert
Nancy Dresher
- 7th Tiffany Gruber
Bradley Clark
Rylee Strunk
- 8th Kai Hawk
- 9th William Heckman, Jr.
Kevin Koehn
- 10th Lea Moyer
Kelly Troutman
- 11th Morgan DeLong
- 12th Karen Mengel
- 15th Allen Daub
- 16th Nancy Dusko
Dorothy Heckman
Tyler Fusner, Jr.
- 17th Dean Sunday
- 18th Faye Heckman
- 19th Tracy Pond
Faye Smith
- 22nd Kimberly Olszewski
- 24th Karen Blandford
Bradley Wessner
- 26th Janelle Kerr
- 28th Cleta Borkey
- 30th William Bensinger, Jr.

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



Shut in Mailing List

Lee Barto
67 Merkel Lane
Shoemakersville, PA 19555

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

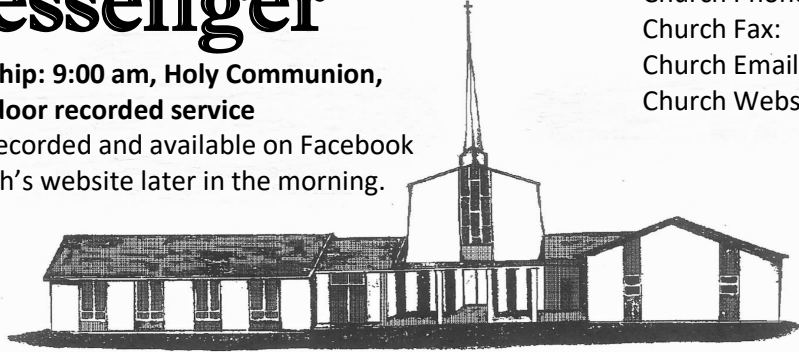
Dorothy Wertz
Maiden Creek Place
105 Dries Rd Room 5
Reading, Pa 19605

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.

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 †

November 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 - NOVEMBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>**10:30 am Service will be recorded and posted on the church's website and Facebook EVERY SUNDAY</p>	<p>1</p> <p>6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7:30 pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7:00 pm A.A. Meeting</p>	<p>3</p> <p>ZOOM BOOK STUDY 10:30 AM & 7:00 PM 7:15 PM CHOIR REH.</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7:00 pm A.A Meeting</p>
<p>7 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM HOLY COMMUNION 9:15 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL DAYLIGHT SVGS ENDS</p>	<p>8</p> <p>6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7:30 pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:00-11:30 am Knotters 7:00 pm Council 7:00 pm A.A. Meeting</p>	<p>10</p> <p>ZOOM BOOK STUDY 10:30 AM & 7:00 PM 7:15 PM CHOIR REH.</p>	<p>11 VETERANS DAY 9:00 am Zion's Cemetery Meeting – Zion's UCC Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>12</p> <p>GOLD ROOM RENTAL</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7:00 pm A.A Meeting</p>
<p>14 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM HOLY COMMUNION 9:15 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL</p>	<p>15</p> <p>6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7:30 pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7:15 PM CHOIR REH 7:00 pm A.A. Meeting</p>	<p>17</p> <p>ZOOM BOOK STUDY 10:30 AM & 7:00 PM</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7:00 PM PROPERTY MTG.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>5:30 PM OPPORTUNITY HSE. MEAL</p>	<p>20</p> <p>7:00 pm A.A Meeting</p>
<p>21 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM HOLY COMMUNION BLESSING OF THE QUILTS 9:15 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL</p>	<p>22 NOVEMBER NWSLTR DEADLINE 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7:30 pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:00-11:30 am Knotters 7:00 pm A.A. Meeting</p>	<p>24</p> <p>7:15 PM CHOIR REH</p>	<p>25 THANKSGIVING DAY</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>7:00 am Altar Guild 7:00 pm A.A Meeting</p>
<p>28 ADVENT BEGINS HOLY COMMUNION 9:15 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL</p>	<p>29</p> <p>6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7:30 pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7:00 pm A.A. Meeting</p>	<p>**WATCH FOR SERVICE INFO IN BULLETINS, CALENDARS & ONLINE</p>			