

Zion's Messenger - June 2024

“For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.” –

(Jeremiah 29:11)

Do you ever get frustrated with what is happening in your life or the lives of those you love? Do you find yourself taking one step forward and two steps back? Do you make plans to do things – taking a much-needed vacation, attending a theater event, making an overdue visit to a relative – and then life gets in the way? Do silently speak to God and say, “What next?” It is human nature to want to be in control of what is happening in our life and to want to know what will happen in the future. The prophet Jeremiah assures us that God has a plan for us. There is no need to be fearful or anxious about the twists and turns on our life’s journey. We need to trust God and lean on His promises. God’s plan is to keep us safe, to support us through trial and to give us a future of hope.

As the temperature outside has gotten warmer, we are anticipating the official arrival of summer. During the months of June, July and August, we will be embarking on a “Summer of Hope”. During the next three months, as you travel for vacation or continue with your weekly routine - wherever you are and whatever you are doing, I challenge you to look for glimpses of hope. Take a moment to write them down or take a photo.

Beginning in June you will find a “tree” in the narthex. Please take a moment each week to attach your “glimpses of hope” to the tree - write them on a post-it or bring a small photo to share. As you consider all the hope that we are able to see, consider that there are people who live in other places in the world who do not see these kinds of hope and may not have access to life essentials – a roof over their head, safe drinking water, nutritional food, healthcare, an education – that could provide them hope for a better future.

I challenge you as you share your glimpses of hope and learn about other’s “hopeful moments”, to set aside at least \$1 per week to help others to experience the hope that you see and know. Please place your donations in the tree. We will remove donations each Sunday and provide you with a weekly running total.

In early August, a representative from Tree 4 Hope will join us to share their work in the US and Guatemala. All proceeds from the “Summer of Hope” challenge will be donated to Tree 4 Hope to provide a bright future of long-term hope for children, elders, and their families in Guatemala and around the world through educational, health, and mental wellness outreach programs.

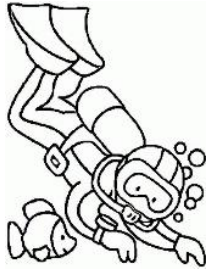
As children of God, we are called to “let our light shine before others” and to “love one another as Christ first loved us”. Hope surrounds us, let’s take time to help our neighbors to share in the same hope that we have in Christ.

“But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not be faint.”

(Isaiah 40:31)

Peace and blessings,

Pastor Stephanie



SCUBA

Diving Into Friendship with God Vacation Bible School

June 17 – 21, 2024

9:00 – 11:30am

Ages 3 through 5th grade

Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church
354 Zion's Church Road, Shoemakersville

Register online today at
Vbspro.events/p/a600a3
or scan the QR code.
Please register by June 9.
Walk-ins welcome!



**** SUMMER SCHEDULE ****

Sunday School begins its summer break on June 2, 2024. Sunday School will return in the fall.
Our upcoming summer hours will be in effect from Sunday, June 2 through Labor Day weekend.
During this time, worship will begin at 9:00 am.



Council Corner

Church council met Tuesday, May 14th. Confirmands Rylee Strunk and Matt Gring were in attendance. They described some of their earliest memories of church and discussed how they viewed their future involvement at Zion's. They also provided input on the combined Catechism classes we had this year. Zion's is lucky to have such faithful young people with families who support their Christian journey. Both were approved for confirmation.

The financial report was discussed. We had slightly more expenses than income this last month, but over all we have been meeting our expenses. The finance committee recommended that we place the \$80,000 from the Bill Hill donation into Vanguard to allow it to accrue more interest. It is likely we will be needing the money as we are considering replacing the roof on the church. Property Committee is currently getting bids.

There was discussion regarding the planning of the Affirmation of Baptism service.

Worship and Music committee reviewed ushering procedures for communion. Written instructions on the sound system and microphones were handed out and will be kept at church so more people are able to operate and troubleshoot the system. Plans are in the works to move the sound system up to the balcony instead of at the front of the church. Protocols and fees for guest Pastors and speakers were discussed.

The Church picnic is scheduled for September 8th after the 10:30 service. Council reviewed and updated the Time and Talent sheets which will be handed out this fall.

Welcome and Outreach Committee volunteered to keep our children's bags stocked and up to date. These bags are in the Narthex and are available for any children to take into church on Sunday morning.

The church's property insurance policy was reviewed and there was agreement that the current policy met our needs. No changes were recommended.

Respectfully submitted, Janine Dreibelbis

Financial Report

We finished the month of April at \$167.13 in the red (monthly income over expenses).

Monthly – Income for April	\$13,563.71
Monthly – Expenses for April	\$13,730.84
The General Offering	\$ 8,629.00
Online Giving	\$ 3,295.43
Loose Change	\$ 102.00
Other Income	<u>\$ 1,537.28</u>
Subtotal	\$13,563.71

Thank you for your continued support!

Consider online giving

Visit <http://zionslutheran.org/donate/>.



On May 19, 2024, Pentecost Sunday,
Matthew Kevin Gring
and
Rylee Claire Strunk

were Confirmed in the Rite of Affirmation
of Baptism.

Mark Dreibelbis has been their principal leader
in the two years of the Confirmation program.

Thank-you

Pastor Stephanie and her family want to thank everyone for the cards, gifts and prayers sent during Evelyn's recent surgery. In addition, we thank everyone for the cards and prayers received as we grieve the loss of Don's brother, Jeff.

JUNE WORSHIP

On June 9th, Brent Rothermel will be bringing us the message and providing lay leadership during the service. Brent is the son of Gary and Carol Rothermel, and many of you will remember him from his time at Zion's. Brent is now a member of Good Shepherd UCC in Boyertown where he is the leader of an Adult Sunday School class. He was drawn to lay leadership through a deep connection with God through Jesus and the Holy Spirit; a spiritual journey that began here at Zion's, where he was baptized, confirmed, and married.

On June 30th, Berks County artist, Jon Bond, will present The Bible in Art which will look at the fascinating stories behind famous paintings that depict Biblical scenes. We will learn about DaVinci's Last Supper, Rembrandt's Christ in the Storm on the Sea of Galilee, and Van Gogh's Good Samaritan.

We hope to see you for these inspirational services!



Zion's Bicycle Ministry

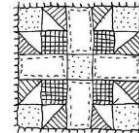
Zion's June bike ride will be on Saturday morning, June 1st.

We will meet at Zion's at 9am, and carpool/caravan to start at the Schuylkill River Trail Brentwood Trailhead and head towards Gibraltar Access. Meet 9am at Zion's to caravan/carpool or meet us by 9:45am at the Brentwood Trailhead, 639 Morgantown Road (Rt 10).

As always, please bring water and a snack to share for some Fellowship time at the end of our ride. Optional out to lunch following fellowship time if there's interest. Hope you can join us!



Blessing of the Graduates
Graduation season is once again upon us.
Please join us on June 2nd
for the Blessing of the Graduates during
the 9:00 am Worship on
Sunday, June 2, 2024.



BLESSING OF THE QUILTS

The Blessing of the Quilts will be held
during the 9:00 am Worship on
Sunday, June 2, 2024.

Please join us as we bless the abundance of beautiful quilts that the Knotters have completed. We give thanks to all who are part of this ministry through which Zions can be a blessing to those who receive these quilts. **Any quilt may be purchased by donation.**

Thank you to Scout Group 163 for stuffing pillowcases for pet beds. The beds were gratefully received by the Humane Society of Berks County near Albright.

The Knotters Group is always looking for new people to join. We meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month from 9 – 11 am in the Gold Room. Check the bulletins and calendars for all changes to our regular meeting dates.



Coffee Bar

This month's Coffee Bar is
Sunday, June 9

A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Narthex if you are able to bring a baked good or snack for everyone to enjoy.

LIFE LINE SCREENING EVENT:
JUNE 14, 2024

There will be a Life Line Screening event here in the Fellowship Hall on **Thursday, June 14, 2024.**

To register for an appointment and receive a special discount, please call 1-800-679-5191 or visit online LLSA.SOCIAL/HC or text the word “circle” to 216-279-1607.

Senior Group

**Our next Senior Group will meet on
June 20, 2024 in the Fellowship Hall,
11:00 am – 2:00 pm.**

We will be ordering pizza for lunch.
Try to arrive early to divide into card groups.
Hope to see you there!



Garden News

*Planting seeds in your garden is like planting
thoughts in your mind.
Nourish the good ones and pull out the weeds.
GardensAll.com*

The majority of the Garden has been planted. Thanks to the neighborhood birds, some bean seeds have even been planted twice! We have lots of cabbage growing, as well as beans, tomatoes, peppers, and cucumbers. Please listen for Sunday announcements or check Zion’s Facebook page for news of our work days. Current volunteers will be emailed work day information. See Lori Palubinski or Eileen Puglia for more information.

Hope to see you in the Garden!

Christmas in July – In Ian’s Boots

This year WELCA is supporting In Ian’s Boots, headquartered in Pottstown, PA whose mission is providing shoes and boots to those in need locally and around the world. Their mission was born in the aftermath of a sledding accident that caused the tragic death of their 12-year-old son, Ian. You can check out their inspirational story online at iansboots.org.

During the month of July, we will be collecting new or GENTLY used adult and children’s shoes, boots and cleats for In Ian’s boots who will sort, sanitize, package and distribute them to where they are needed. In order for others to benefit from these donations, the items should be in a condition that they still have usable life.



Zion’s Library

*If you want happiness for 1 hour– take a nap.
If you want happiness for a day – go fishing.
If you want happiness for a month – get married.
If you want happiness for a year – inherit a fortune.
If you want happiness for a lifetime – help
someone else.*

NEW IN 2023

Christian Life: “Down a Garden Path”

Humor: “I Second that Emotion”

Wellness: “He Cares for You”

Women of Faith: “Love Me Never Leave Me”

Add color to your life – Read!



Time to Dream about summer and going to Bear Creek Camp!

Bear Creek Camp is the largest Lutheran Camp in the country located on 3000 wooded acres near Wilkes Barre. Campers become more friendly, adventurous, and service oriented. They sing a little louder and climb a little higher. When campers go home, they feel closer to God, more curious about faith and more connected to nature.

Classic camp is now a Sunday through Friday experience. 2 sessions of try camp are available from Sunday to Wednesday for those who have completed first or second grade.

NEW this year: Rafting trips for jr. and sr. high Expanded high ropes course

WELCA strongly believes in the value of the outdoor Christian education of Bear Creek camp. Therefore, they offer scholarships for Zion's members and Zion's Sunday school attendees.

Try Camp - \$300

Classic Camp - \$425

Family Camp - \$300 (Family camp is July 2-7)

Check the website bearcreekcamp.org for details about camp, dates, forms and FAQ.

Contact Carol Rothermel 610-562-7620 or chipmunk_hill@comcast.net for details about how to sign up for camp and how to use the church code to access the scholarships.



SOCK IT TO 'EM

We are half-way to our goal of 500 pairs of donated socks for Keystone Military!

Men's & Women's Boot Socks
Black or White & Mostly Cotton

Boot socks can be purchased at Boscov's or Priority One Surplus in Hamburg. There is a box in the narthex to collect your sock donations.

***ALL TYPES OF SOCKS ARE NOW BEING
ACCEPTED.***

Your donations will help Keystone Military families ensure that every stocking sent to deployed military personnel this year includes a pair of socks!



FAITH NIGHT AT THE MOVIES HAMBURG STRAND THEATER

June 11, 2024 – Soul Surfer

All movies start at 7:00 pm. Tickets are \$8.00 at the door and include a popcorn & soda.

ZION'S CEMETERY COMPANY INC.

**Our Monthly Board Meeting will be held on
Thursday, June 13, 2024 at 9:00 am.**

Meetings are held at Zion's Church (formerly Zion's UCC Church) in Meeting Room 201.

Website: <https://zionsperrytwp.cemetery.network>
Single or multiple grave lots are available for sale.
Please contact David Geschwindt, Cemetery
Manager, 610-562-7421



FOOD PANTRY

Our local food pantry is **always** in need of donations. Some items that are needed:

Breakfast bars
Microwave beefaroni
Easy Mac bowls

And of course, **any shelf stable item** would be appreciated.

****If you have tote bags to donate, they are also needed by Northern Berks Food Pantry (Hamburg). Please put them in the shopping cart in the Narthex. You can even put your food donations in a tote bag!**

For monetary donations, checks can be made out to **Northern Berks Food Pantry** and mailed to:
Hamburg Area Middle School
711 Windsor St.
Hamburg, PA 19526

Thank you 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., June 25, 2024, from 6 pm to 7 pm.**



Introducing Monica

Monica Camilla is in 3rd grade at Hope Academy in Guatemala. She lives in the village of Aguacate just outside of Guatemala City and very near Hogar Miguel Orphanage where Tree 4 Hope got its start. Monica is 10 years old and her birthday is June 27th. She is full of energy, extroverted and fun. She loves to sing and draw. Thanks to the generous offering at my ordination, Monica will continue her studies at Hope Academy for a whole year.

Stay tuned to learn more about Tree 4 Hope and their mission in the US and Guatemala!



June Birthdays

- 2nd Wanda Hoherchak
3rd Steven Schumaker
Avery Gruber
6th Pamela Seidel
Carl Hollenbach
7th Robin Epting
- 11th Crystal Koehn
Jane Seidel
12th Matthew Hoffert
Jennifer Mazaika
Devin Pond
- 19th Jean Smith
Nancy Wheeland
21st Tracie Heckman
Dennis Reinhart
Carolyn Hollenbach
John Williamson
- 24th Hannah Hix
25th Karen Heckman
27th Brandon Noecker
28th Dennis Heckman
Carmen Long
Ryan Wilhelm

Would you like your birthday listed in the newsletter?
Please contact the Church Office at 610-562-3112 or
churchoffice@zionslutheran.org.



Shut-in Mailing List

Mabel Fry
65 Fry Lane
Auburn, Pa 17922

Grace Ketner
1801 Tulpehocken Rd, Apt. 1
Wyomissing, PA 19610

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

Carl Sechler
848 Stone Hill Road
Shoemakersville PA 19555

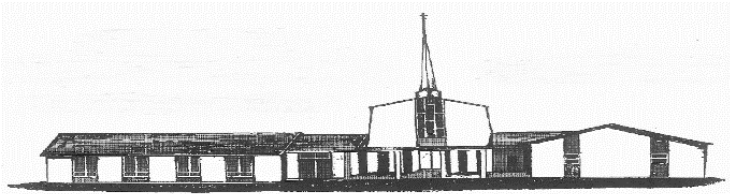
David Seidel
Grand View Manor
129 Houck Rd
Fleetwood, Pa 19522

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 School: 9:15 am

Sunday Worship: 10:30 am, Holy Communion,
Indoor recorded service



June 2024

Church Phone: 610-562-3112

Church Email: churchoffice@zionslutheran.org

Church Website: www.zionslutheran.org

Pastor: Pastor Stephanie Roth

Pastor's Office Phone: 610-562-6731

Pastor's Email:

pastorstephanie@zionslutheran.org

Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church 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 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
** SERVICES WILL BE RECORDED AND POSTED ON THE CHURCH'S WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE EVERY SUNDAY	**WATCH FOR SERVICE INFO IN BULLETINS, CALENDARS & ONLINE				3	1
2 9:00 am Holy Communion Blessing of the Quilts Blessing of Graduates	3 OFFICE CLOSED 6:30 PM – Cub Scouts & Boy Scouts (last mtg till fall)	4 7:00 pm Altar Guild 7:00 pm A.A. Meeting	5	6	7 FH RENTAL	8 9 AM – 4 PM SYNOD ASSEMBLY
9 9:00 am Holy Communion *Fellowship Time before and following Worship	10 OFFICE CLOSED	11 9:00 am – 11:00 am – Knotters 7:00 pm Council Mtg. 7:00 pm A.A. Meeting	12	13 9:00 am Zion's Cemetery mtg @Zion's Church	14 FH RENTAL LIFELINE SCREENING EVENT	15 FH RENTAL
16 9:00 am Holy Communion	17 VBS WEEK 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM JULY 2024 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	18 VBS WEEK 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM 7:00 pm A.A. Meeting	19 VBS WEEK 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM	20 VBS WEEK 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM 11 AM – 2 PM Senior Group *IN FELLOWSHIP HALL *	21 VBS WEEK 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM FH RENTAL - PM	22 FH RENTAL
23 9:00 am Holy Communion	24 OFFICE CLOSED	25 9:00 am – 11:00 am – Knotters 6:00 pm Berks Food Bank distribution at Hamburg Area Middle Sch. 7:00 pm A.A. Meeting	26	27 7:00 PM Property Mtg.	28	29 FH RENTAL
30 9:00 am Holy Communion						

