

Zion's Messenger - May 2025



It's May. Spring is finally here. Well, I think. Maybe.

This year in February Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow and predicted six extra weeks of winter. We had a few teasers of warmer weather over the past few months, but spring season didn't exactly arrive on time. We have been waiting all thru March and April for warm and sunny days to come and stay.

We have mowed our yards for the first time recently. We have begun planting our perennials and tilling our gardens as well. Yet I know that past Memorial Day weekends have had some pretty chilly temperatures. Even though my calendar says we are heading into the beginning of May, some days I just stay inside and snuggle up on the couch with my fuzzy blanket to keep warm.

The point I want to make is that our lives do not always unfold according to our hopes and expectations. In fact, we should always expect the unexpected.

Our ability to adapt to the unexpected is one of the essential human characteristics for survival in this life. The ability to change or adapt is key to our sustainability.

We are now in the Easter season. One of the key elements in the story of the resurrection of Jesus concerns the ability to adapt to changing circumstances.

Jesus tried to explain to his disciples about his coming death and resurrection. But no one understood what he was talking about. Some did not believe what Jesus had told them. So, they were surprised on Easter morning.

The same can be said for the apostle Paul. He ventured down the road to Damascus thinking he would persecute the church, but along the way Jesus appeared to him and he became an apostle of Jesus Christ.

Surprises in life happen regardless of our expectations. We have to adapt to change every single day. Change is not a burden but an opportunity for us to move on, grow and prosper.

This Easter season may we all take time to appreciate the new life bursting forth all around us. May we recognize opportunities in our lives to grow and change knowing that it is our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ empowering us and leading us in new directions.

Peace and blessings,

Pastor Stephanie



**** SUMMER SCHEDULE ****

Sunday School begins its summer break on June 1, 2025. Sunday School will return in the fall. Our upcoming summer hours will be in effect from Sunday, June 1 through Labor Day weekend. During this time, worship will begin at 9:00 am.



VBS 2025 at Zion's

Plan to join us for 2025 Vacation Bible School!

True North: Trusting Jesus in a Wild World
will take us on an Alaskan adventure.

June 16-20, 2025
9:00 am to 11:30 am.

We welcome ages 3 - 5th grade.
Walk-ins welcome!

There is still time to volunteer to help with VBS,
Contact Faye Heckman for more information.



Blessing of the Graduates **On June 1, 2025**

Graduation season is once again upon us.
If you have a graduate in your life this year,
please fill out a form located on the table in the Narthex.
Please submit the forms to the church office by **May 18th**
so that we can celebrate this milestone with them.



Council Corner

Church council met on April 8, 2025 at 7:00pm. The meeting began with a devotion entitled Yard Sales! The scripture it was based on was from Mark 10:22 "But he was stunned at this demand, and he went away grieving, because he had many possessions."

Synod Assembly takes place on May 30 - 31, 2025. Pastor Stephanie will be attending along with our delegates David and Mary Mengle. We thank them for their service.

VBS will be held the week of June 16- 20, 2025. Ages 3 thru 5th grade are welcome. Keep an eye out for registration!

The property committee will be getting quotes for a new heating system. Please prayerfully consider additional contributions to the capital fund for this project.

Respectfully submitted by Sandra Moroney

Financial Report

We finished the month of March at \$20,990.37 in the black (monthly income over expenses).

Monthly – Income for March \$35,163.06

Monthly – Expenses for March \$14,172.69

The General Offering \$29,087.76

Online Giving \$ 2,146.66

Loose Change \$ 276.00

Other Income \$ 3,652.64

Subtotal \$35,163.06

Thank you for your continued support!

Consider online giving

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



Fellowship Time

**Our next fellowship time will be
May 18, 2025**

A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the narthex if you would like to help or bring a snack or baked good for everyone to enjoy.

Join us before or after worship!



Senior Group

**Our next Senior Group will meet on
May 15, 2025 in the Fellowship Hall,
11:00 am – 2:00 pm.**

Invite a friend to play board games and cards.
Try to arrive early to divide into card groups.

Hope to see you there!



Card Shower

We would like to have a **birthday card shower** for Mabel Fry who will be **celebrating a birthday on May 10**. Cards should be addressed to:

Mabel Fry

65 Fry Lane

Auburn, Pa 17922



Crochet Corner

Hey crochet enthusiasts!

Join us for a fun-filled morning every Thursday in the library from 10 am to 12 pm!

We'll be crocheting and learning together.

Bring your hooks and share the love of crocheting with friends!

Any questions please contact Susie Lutz.



Bike Rides

Our first bike ride of 2025 will be held on Saturday, May 17th at the Bartram Trail.

Please meet at the Bartram Trail parking lot, for a 9am start to our ride.

Bring your bike, water, and also a snack to share for some fellowship time at the end of the ride.

All ages are welcome!

See John Smith or Eileen Puglia for questions or information.

We hope you can join us this year!



Garden News

Behold, my friends, the spring is come; the earth has gladly received the embraces of the sun, and we shall soon see the results of their love! Sitting Bull

Join us as we start our 11th season in the Garden. We will start April 29th at 9:00 am with a little clean up and garden prep. Cabbage plants and vegetable seeds will then be planted for the first of our cool weather crops, the following week. As always, all volunteers, with all levels of gardening experience, are welcome.

Please listen for Sunday announcements or check Zion's Facebook page for news of our workdays. Previous volunteers will be emailed workday 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. Let's get growing!



"Celebrate Your Faith Night"

Reading Phillies Game

Thursday, August 14, 2024 at 7:00 PM

\$15.00/ticket in the Blue seat section

Sign up on the bulletin board or call the church office

Payment for tickets due to Tiffany Gruber by July 1, 2025



Make Quilts!

Knotters Group

Thank-you for all the supplies donated to help us to complete quilts for those in need!

Please consider joining us in the Gold Room at 9am the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month.

We are also making and donating dog beds to shelters in need with the help of the Boy Scouts,

Currently, we are in need of sheet sets or blankets for quilt backing and pillow cases for the dog beds.

Helping hands and donations are always welcome.

We will be doing a Blessing of the Quilts during a service, more information to come.

For any questions or concerns contact Eleanor Dietrich at 484-824-4388.



Zion's Library

Plan ahead, it wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.

Our Mystery Library Reader!

Favorite authors: David Jeremiah & Lee Child

Type of Books I Read: Mystery & History

Do most of my reading: Couch in living room

Why I enjoy reading: learning, inspiration, and relaxation.

My favorite saying: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13

Who am I?

Our days are like identical suitcases – all the same size – but some people can pack more into them than others.

Please stop in and check out our selections.



We would like to thank you for your donation of \$180.00 to our local Food Pantry.

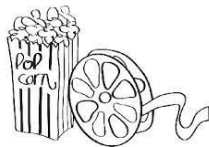
It is through people like you that we can continue to help our low-income families supplement their food supply each month. We appreciate all donations from local churches, organizations and individuals who show their support of this worthy project.

Northern Berks Food Pantry

Thank you so much for your generous donation of socks to put in the Christmas stockings for the military overseas, and occasionally in emergency boxes also for the overseas deployed military. The men and woman that are away from home look forward to these boxes and we greatly appreciate your support. 2024 "SOCK IT TO 'EM" campaign tallied up over 10,000 pairs of socks, thanks to people like your congregation.

Thank you again, and we look forward to your continued support. This season has already kicked off the 2025 sock collection.

Sincerely, Kyle Lord, Director
Keystone Military Families



Faith Night at the Movies **Hamburg Strand Theatre**

May 13, 2025 God's Not Dead:
In God We Trust

June 10, 2025 Second Chance

July 8, 2025 Legend of the 5 Mile Cave

All movies start at 7:00 pm. Tickets are \$10.00 at the door and include a popcorn & medium soda.



Our Town Foundation 2025 Membership

WELCA is proud to continue to sponsor Zion's membership in Our Town Foundation (OTF). As part of this membership, Zion's continues its listing on the hamburgpa.org website with a link to our website.

In addition, as part of our membership, we can have FREE postings of our event flyers in the Hamburg Happenings, which currently has an email distribution of over 2500.

To post our flyer, the event must be open to the public, not just Zion's members. Contact Eileen Puglia or John Smith for more information or if you need 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.



Zion's Cemetery Company Inc.

Our Monthly Board Meeting will be held on
Thursday, May 1, 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



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

Classic camp is a Sunday through Friday experience with 4 sessions of try camp from Sunday to Wednesday for those who have completed first or second grade. There are rafting trips for Jr. and Sr. high as well as an expanded high ropes course.

First session of camp is June 15-20.

Last session of camp is August 3-8.

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. For details about how to sign up for camp and how to use the church code to access the scholarships, contact

Carol Rothermel - chipmunk_hill@comcast.net

or 610-562-7620.



FOOD PANTRY

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

Canned vegetables

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., May 27, 2025, from 6 pm to 7 pm.



May Birthdays

2 nd	Jason Dewald
3 rd	Loralee LaVentura
4 th	Edmund Adam
7 th	Taylor Gruber Jara Heckman
8 th	Victoria Walsh
10 th	Mabel Fry Grayson Gnade Taryn Seidel Ty Seidel
11 th	Zachary Onulack Christina Seidel
13 th	Brooke Bensinger
14 th	Tyler Seidel
15 th	Howard Hoppes Marc Schroeder
17 th	Jamie Heckman
21 st	Dylan Gough Kathryn Reinhart
23 rd	Matthew Clark Jean Daub Carrie Price Leslie Seidel
24 th	Kami Rodeffer
25 th	Heather Stitzer
26 th	Sandra Masters Brandi Seidel
28 th	Lathum Mazaika Sandra Moroney Bradley Reinhart
29 th	Tammy Eyer
30 th	Jenelle Reinhart Susan Schriver
31 st	Tara Bachman

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

Bulletin and Altar Flower Sponsors

Sponsoring bulletins and altar flowers are a special way to honor loved ones and give glory to God. If you would like to sponsor either, you may sign on the corresponding sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Bulletins - \$13.00, Altar Flowers, \$40.00.



Shut-in Mailing List

Mabel Fry
65 Fry Lane
Auburn, Pa 17922

Helen James
668 North 5th Street
Hamburg PA 19526

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

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

Carl Sechler
Laurel Center
125 Holly Rd.
Hamburg, PA 19526

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

Barbara Shafer
21 East Noble
Shoemakersville, PA 19555

Lester Wessner
350 Witchcraft Rd
Hamburg, PA 19526

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 will be taking orders for red geraniums for Pentecost. The order will need to be in the church office by Friday, May 30, 2025. Please place the order form and your payment in the offering basket.

You can pick up the geraniums on Pentecost Sunday June 8th after Worship. If you cannot pick them up after Worship, please call the church office to plan for pick-up. If you would like to leave them to be planted at the church, please specify on the order form.

_____ 4.5" Red Geraniums \$5.00 each

Total amount paid: _____

In Honor of _____

By _____

In Honor of _____

By _____

In Memory of _____

By _____

In Memory of _____

By _____

Will Pick Up after worship _____

Please plant at the church _____

Name of person placing the order _____

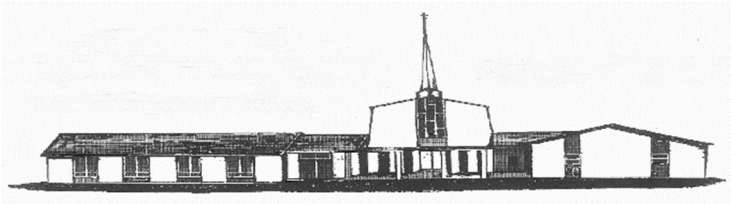
Phone number of person placing the order _____

Zion's Messenger

Sunday School: 9:15 am

Sunday Worship: 10:30 am, Holy Communion,

Indoor recorded service



May 2025

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 – MAY 2025

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			1 FH Hall Rental 10am Crochet Group 6pm Brass Rehearsal 7pm Bells Rehearsal	2	3 9:30am Blue Mt. Heritage Chorus Rehearsal
4 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Holy Communion	5 Office Closed 6:30pm Cub & Boy Scouts	6 7pm A.A. Meeting 7pm Adult Choir	7	8 10am Crochet Group 6pm Brass Rehearsal 7pm Bells Rehearsal	9	10
11 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Holy Communion	12 Office Closed 6:30pm Cub & Boy Scouts	13 9am Knotters Group 7pm A.A. Meeting 7pm Council Meeting	14 6pm Girl Scouts 7pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	15 10am Crochet Group 11am Senior Group 6pm Brass Rehearsal 7pm Bells Rehearsal 7pm Property Meeting	16 Opportunity House	17
18 Fellowship Time 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Holy Communion	19 Office Closed June 2025 Newsletter Deadline 6:30pm Cub & Boy Scouts	20 7pm A.A. Meeting	21 7pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	22 10am Crochet Group	23	24
25 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Holy Communion	26 Office Closed 6:30pm Cub & Boy Scouts	27 9am Knotters Group 6:00 pm Northern Berks Food Pantry distribution at Hamburg Area Middle School 7pm A.A. Meeting	28 6pm Girl Scouts	29 10am Crochet Group 6pm Brass Rehearsal 7pm Bells Rehearsal	30	31 Cub & Boy Scout Yard Sale

