

Zion's Messenger - October 2025



Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see everything has become new. (2 Corinthians 5:17)

October is one of those months when we can't help but notice change all around us. The air turns crisp, the days grow shorter and the trees display their fiery colors before gently letting their leaves fall. It's a beautiful reminder that God has built change into the rhythm of His creation.

The book of Ecclesiastes tells us, "*For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven*" (Ecclesiastes 3:1). These words ring especially true at this time of year. Just as nature moves through its appointed seasons, so do our lives. We walk through times of joy and celebration, times of work and growth, times of loss and letting go. Each season has its own lessons to teach us and its own blessings to reveal.

Autumn, with its falling leaves, reminds us that letting go is not the end, but often the beginning of something new. The trees shed their leaves in preparation for winter's rest, which in turn makes way for the new growth of spring. In the same way, God sometimes calls us to release old habits, burdens, or even past seasons of life, so He can prepare us for the new things He is doing.

It's not always easy to embrace change. We often long for the comfort of what is familiar. But the good news of Scripture is that God is faithful in every season. Whether we are in a time of harvest or a time of waiting, a time of laughter or a time of tears, the Lord holds us steady. He is the same yesterday, today and forever, and His love for us never changes – even when everything else does.

This October, I invite you to reflect on the season you are in. What is God teaching you right now? What might He be inviting you to release, and what new thing might He be preparing you to embrace? Just as the beauty of autumn points us toward His handiwork, may your own season of life point you back to His faithful care.

Together, let's trust that . . .

"He has made everything beautiful in its time" (Ecclesiastes 3:11)

Peace and blessings,

Pastor Stephanie



SOCK IT TO 'EM

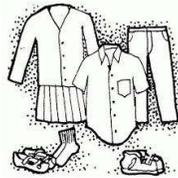
The most requested item by military personnel deployed overseas is “Socks”, yes socks. In 2024 the Keystone Military Families mailed over 14,000 Christmas Stockings overseas. The 2025 Stockings for Soldiers “Sock It to Em” campaign is starting now! Help us provide socks for every soldier this year.

Please place your sock donations in the drop box in the narthex.
All socks must be new, no used socks!

ALL TYPES OF SOCKS ARE BEING ACCEPTED.

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

The Keystone Military Families thank you for your donation!



WELCA's Clothing Drive

WELCA will be collecting all seasons of gently used clothing and shoes for men, women and children to benefit the Hope Rescue Mission.

As you clean your closets in preparation for cooler temperatures, please consider donating items you no longer use.

**NO USED UNDER GARMENTS
NO HOUSEHOLD ITEMS**

There is a current need for: NEW men's underwear

Bring donations to the church and place them in the box located in the narthex now thru Sunday, October 19th.

Donations will also be accepted on October 18th, the date of WELCA's annual "Food Sale".



**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR**

10/26/25	Reformation Sunday
11/02/25	All Saint’s Sunday
11/30/25	1 st Sunday in Advent
12/24/25	Christmas Eve 4:00 pm & 7:00 pm



Council Corner

As the leaves change and we move into this season of gratitude, our church continues to be blessed in many ways. The Treasurer reported that we finished the month of August in the black with a balance of \$24,454.75. The Property Committee is working to make improvements around the grounds, including the installation of several French drains and the removal and replacement of shrubbery. WELCA is busy preparing for their annual Favorite Foods Sale, offering barbecues, soups, and desserts—orders are due by October 13th, with pickup on October 18th. Zion's will also be reaching out to the community by setting up a table at Steve's Quackin' Deals in Shoemakersville on October 11th, where we'll share games and handouts with our neighbors. Looking ahead, the Council decided to once again request Angel Tree tags from the Salvation Army so that we may help bring Christmas joy to families in need. Finally, we are excited to share that Zion's has been awarded a \$1,000 Feast of Abundance Grant through the Stewardship of Life Institute. This grant will allow us to host a free community breakfast on November 1st, complete with pancakes, sausage, eggs, fruit, coffee, and juice. We look forward to gathering around the table, sharing God's love, and spreading joy within our community.

Respectfully Submitted,
Heather Gring



New Member Class

A new members class will be offered

November 2nd & 9th

for anyone interested in learning more about officially joining Zions Lutheran Church.

Please contact Pastor Stephanie Roth, or the Church Office to sign-up.



Financial Report

This is a correction to the financial report that was in last month's newsletter.

We finished the month of July \$4,488.46 in the red (monthly income over expenses).

Monthly – Income for July	\$18,271.77
Monthly – Expenses for July	\$22,759.90

The General Offering	\$10,919.00
Online Giving	\$2,706.06
Loose Change	\$108.22
Other Income	\$4,538.49
Subtotal	\$18,271.77

We finished the month of August \$5,963.84 in the red (monthly income over expenses).

Monthly – Income for August	\$11,538.57
Monthly – Expenses for August	\$17,502.41

The General Offering	\$8,399.26
Online Giving	\$1,612.26
Loose Change	\$147.00
Other Income	\$1,380.05
Subtotal	\$11,538.57

Thank you for your continued support!

Consider online giving

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



Do You Have Feedback?

If you have any concerns, comments or suggestions regarding newsletters, bulletins or worship, please feel free to contact Pastor Stephanie by email, phone or stop by her office to share your feedback.



COMING SOON –
JESUS, JAMMIES and JOY

“Jesus, Jammies and Joy” is an outreach ministry launched by Pastor Stephanie during her internship at Trinity Lutheran Church in Pottsville in the fall of 2022.

During the month of November, we will be collecting new kid’s winter pajamas to be distributed to children in need through local agencies in time for Christmas.

Be on the lookout for sales on any size girls or boys one or two-piece warm pajamas.

WATCH FUTURE BULLETINS FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Thank-you for sharing the love of Jesus with children in need during the upcoming holiday season through the warm hug of new winter pajamas!



Fellowship

Our next fellowship gathering will be Sunday, October 12th

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

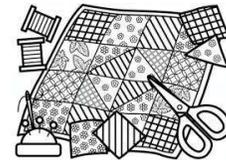


Senior Group

Our next Senior Group will meet on **October 16, 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!



Knotters Group

Please consider joining us in the Gold Room at 9am on Oct. 14th & Oct 28th

We assembled & blessed 100 back packs with school supplies in them to be delivered to New Windsor, Maryland. Thank you for all the donations and help completing this project.

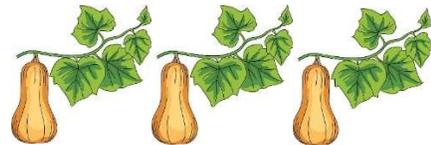
We need help to sew quilt patches together for our knotted quilts.

Patches are available in the church office.

Currently, we are in need of sheet sets or blankets for quilt backing.

Helping hands and donations are always welcome.

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



Garden News

“And all at once, summer collapsed into fall”

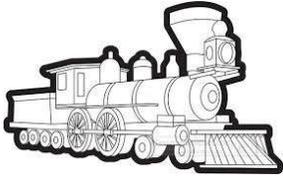
~ Oscar Wilde

The end of our 11th Garden season is drawing near. We are finishing up our tomatoes, peppers, beans, and eggplant and are waiting for our late cabbage and fall squash to be ready.

Please join us as we harvest the last of our produce this month, and work to put the Garden to rest until next season.

So far this year we have been able to donate 2,104 lbs

Listen for Sunday announcements or check the Sunday bulletin/Facebook page for news of our Garden group schedule.



Blue Mountain Heritage Chorus

Blue Mt. Heritage Chorus will present a concert
“All Aboard”

here at Zion’s Lutheran
on **Oct. 5, 2025 at 2:00 pm.**

A poster with details is posted on the
bulletin board in the narthex.

Please join us!



“Favorite (Bazaar) Foods Sale” **Saturday, October 18th**

WELCA is again holding a drive-thru food sale of
some of your favorite Bazaar foods, including
barbecues, soups, and apple dumplings.

Pre-order and pay by Sunday, October 12th

Drive-thru to pick up your food
Saturday, October 18th from 11am until 1pm.

Forms are available in the Narthex or
on Zion’s Facebook page and website.

Order forms and payment - place in offering basket,
drop off at church, mail to the church c/o WELCA.

Please make checks payable to WELCA.

Baked goods will be for sale the day of pick up.

Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board for
volunteers to help in the kitchen, volunteers on
pickup day, and for baked good donations.

Thank you in advance for your support!

The Women of WELCA



Zion’s Library

*“You don’t have to be happy to laugh, you become
happy because you laugh.”*

*“Plan ahead, it wasn’t raining when Noah
built the Ark.”*

Easy Reader Books:

Thanks For Your Help
Your World is Wonderful
Let’s Play
Where Do You Live



Let’s Ride!

Our next ride and probably the last for the season

Saturday, October 11

Meet at the Bartram Trail parking lot at 9 am.

As always, following the ride we will have
fellowship so please bring a snack to share.

Hope to see you there!



Little Jesus

Everyone needs a Little Jesus in their lives.

On Saturday October 11th
3pm-7pm

We will be at Steve’s Quackin’ Deals
Second Annual Children’s Fall Fest.

If you are interested in helping at our booth please
reach out to Stephanie Seidel.



Zion's Women of the ELCA

Our next WELCA meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 23rd at 6 pm in the Gold Room.

All women of Zion's are welcome, as we plan for upcoming opportunities to support church ministries and our community. Hope you can join us!



Feast of Abundance

Join us on Saturday, November 1st from 8am-11am.

We will be hosting a free community breakfast that will include; pancakes, french toast, sausage, eggs, fruit, coffee, and juice.

We are able to host this amazing event since we were awarded a \$1,000 Feast of Abundance Grant through the Stewardship of Life Institute.

We look forward to gathering around the table, sharing God's love, and spreading joy with our community. If you like to help, there are sign-up sheets on the bulletin board in the Narthex.



Opportunity House Meal

The next date for serving will be November 21st.

Volunteers are always welcome to help. If you would like to help or have any questions, please reach out to Wanda Hoherchak at whoherchak@gmail.com or (570)778-8403.

Thank you to everyone who volunteers their time and talents to continue to make this possible.

Thank you

We would like to thank you for your generous donation of \$200 to the Food Pantry. It is through people like you that we can continue to serve your neighbors and supplement their food supply each month.

~ Northern Berks Food Pantry



Thank you for your gift of \$1880.00 to Lutheran Disaster Response. Your Spirit-filled generosity helps families and communities reeling from disasters, in the immediate aftermath and far into the future. No matter the disaster, no matter the need, your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response enable people to rebuild their lives and livelihoods.

~ With gratitude,
The Rev. Daniel Rift
Director, Congregational Generosity



Thank-you for all the prayers and cards that were sent during my recent hospitalization and recovery. It really lifted my spirits during a very trying time to know that I was in the thoughts and prayers of so many people.

~ Don Roth



Zion's Cemetery Company Inc.

Our Monthly Board Meeting will be held on Monday, October 2nd, 2025 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:

Cereal & Oatmeal

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, your check 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., October 28th, 2025, from 6 pm to 7 pm.**



Grief Share is a Christian support group for those who are grieving.

This 13-week series uses video, personal workbook activities, and group discussions to help you process the loss of your loved one.

We will meet on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm, beginning on September 3,

in Meeting Room 201 at

Zion's Church

770 Zion Church Rd., Hamburg, PA

Consider joining us on this journey of hope and healing.

October's Courses:

Oct 1 st	Fearful & Overwhelmed
Oct 8 th	Anger
Oct 15 th	Regrets
Oct 22 nd	Grief & Your Household
Oct 29 th	Grief & Your Friendships



October Birthdays

- 2nd Brittney Billig
 Dean Kauffman
 Chase Weachter
- 3rd Amanda Gallagher
- 4th Amber Auchenbach
 Nancy Seidel
- 6th Shelley Strunk
- 7th Denise Kopicz
 Jennifer Neuin
- 9th Wasyl Onulack Jr.
- 10th Timothy Olszewski
 Makenna Seidel
- 12th Eleanor Dietrich
 Heather Wagner
- 13th Robert Kopicz
 Neil Schaeffer
 Connor Troutman
- 14th Lucille Gough
 Eileen Puglia
- 15th Matthew Deibler
- 16th Bella Denatala
 Joanne Reidenhour
- 17th Norman Dresher
- 19^h Tanner Mish
- 20th Ruth Ann Adam
 Evan Herr
 Aryton Miller
 Barbara Reinhart
 Brandon Schroeder
- 21st Alannah Daub
- 22nd Reece Heckman
 Carl Sechler
- 24th Heather Gring
 Jennifer Kepner
- 25th Abbie Baer
- 26th Lillian Dusko
 Nancy Holland
 Brianna Ulrich
- 30th Micheal Heckman
 Dawn O'Brien
 Lori Smith
- 31st Amanda Maberry
 Linda Weidner



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

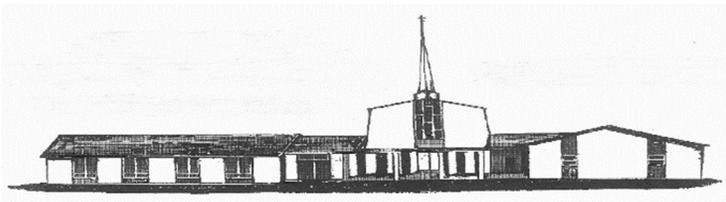
Barbara Shafer
21 East Noble
Shoemakersville, PA 19555

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.

Zion's Messenger

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



October 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 Zion's Church Road
Shoemakersville, PA 19555

Zion's Monthly Calendar – October 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					
5 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 2:00pm Blue Mountain Chorus Concert 3:00pm Fellowship Time	6 Office Closed 6:30pm Cub Scouts & Boy Scouts	7 7:00pm A.A. Meeting	8 6:00pm Girl Scouts	9	10 10:00am Children of the King in Gold Room	11 9:00am Bike Ride 9:30am Blue Mountain Chorus Rehearsal 3:00-7:00pm Steve's Quackin' Deals
12 F.H. Rental 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Fellowship Time FH Confirmation	13 Office Closed 6:30pm Cub Scouts & Boy Scouts	14 9:00am Knotters 7:00pm Council Meeting 7:00pm A.A. Meeting	15	16 FH Rental – Food Sale 11:00am Senior Group 7:00pm Property Meeting	17 FH Rental – Food Sale	18 FH Rental – Food Sale
19 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship FH Rental	20 Office Closed November Newsletter Deadline 6:30pm Cub Scouts & Boy Scouts	21 7:00pm A.A. Meeting	22 6:00pm Girl Scouts	23 10:00am Crochet Group 6:00pm Opportunity House 6:00pm WELCA 6:00pm Worship and Music	24	25 9:30am Blue Mountain Chorus Rehearsal
26 Reformation Sunday 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	27 Office Closed 6:30pm Cub Scouts & Boy Scouts	28 Food Bank 9:00am Knotters 7:00pm A.A. Meeting	29	30	31	