

Zion's Messenger – June 2026



The celebrations of Easter and Pentecost have filled our church with joy, color, music, and the powerful reminders of God's presence among us. Now, as the church season shifts into what is often called "Ordinary Time," we begin a quieter season in the life of the church.

But "ordinary" does not mean unimportant.

Ordinary Time is the season where faith is lived out in everyday moments — in family dinners, summer vacations, cookouts, baseball games, gardening, long evenings, and busy schedules. It is the season where we are reminded that God is present not only in the great celebrations, but also in the routines of daily life.

Summer can quickly become a busy time. School schedules change, vacations are planned, weekends fill up, and many of us spend more time traveling or outdoors. These are wonderful blessings and opportunities for rest and renewal. Yet in the middle of all the activity, it is easy to drift away from the habits that help keep us grounded in faith.

As we move into these summer months, I encourage you to stay connected — connected to God and connected to your church family.

Take time for prayer, even if it is only a few quiet moments at the start of the day. Open your Bible and reflect on God's promises. Worship whenever you are able, whether here at Zion's or while traveling. Reach out to one another. Encourage one another. Faith grows best when we continue to walk together.

Pentecost reminded us that the Holy Spirit continues to move and work through ordinary people in ordinary places. The Spirit does not take the summer off — and neither does God's love for us.

May this season be filled with rest, laughter, renewal, and moments where you clearly see God at work in your life and in the world around you.

*"Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."
(Philippians 4:6-7)*

Wishing you a blessed and faith-filled summer,

Pastor Stephanie



**** SUMMER SCHEDULE ****

Sunday School begins its summer break on May 31, 2026. Sunday School will return in the fall. Our upcoming summer hours will be in effect from Sunday, June 7th through Labor Day weekend. During this time, worship will begin at 9:00 am.



Blessing of the Graduates

Sunday, June 7, 2026

Please join us in worship at 9 am to celebrate this milestone with your church family.



VBS 2026 Announcement

Prepare to step through the mist into

Rainforest Falls

overflowing with wild waterfalls,
towering trees and colorful creatures.



Vacation Bible School

June 22-26, 2026 from 9:00 – 11:30am

Plunge into a lifelong adventure of discovering the nature of God.

Learn what it means to be rooted in relationship with God,
their creator, a safe place in life's storms.

Register today by using the QR Code above or call the church office.

Invite friends and relatives with young children to bring their kids.

If anyone would be willing to help at VBS please see
Faye Heckman or to call the church office.



Emergency Contact Form

To help ensure the safety and well-being of all members,
we are updating our membership records to include current emergency contact information.

Having accurate emergency contact information on file helps us respond appropriately
if something happens and we need to reach someone on your behalf.

This information will only be used if an emergency or unexpected situation occurs.

Starting June 7th, we are asking that everyone fill out a form and place it in the box in the Narthex.



WELCA Christmas in July **Purse Project 2026**

This year's Christmas in July ministry outreach is "The Purse Project 2026", through From The Heart Consignment Shop in Sinking Spring.

Each year, From the Heart collects donations of new and gently used purses containing essential self-care items for local non-profits. Last year they donated 465 filled purses to 10 nonprofits in the greater Berks County area including: Salvation Army, Safe Berks, Hannah's Hope Ministries, One Luv Outreach and Safe Berks,

We already have purses that were donated to WELCA for this project. Feel free to take a purse and fill it with all the items from the "Must Have" checklist below, adding any items from the "Optional" items suggested below.

You may also purchase any of the items on the lists below and place them in the box located in the Narthex.

WELCA will then fill as many purses as we can with the donated items.

We will deliver filled purses to From The Heart for their Purse Project 2026 this fall.

Donation will be accepted throughout the month of July, with a deadline of Sunday, August 2nd.

MUST HAVES

- Handwritten note to recipient offering hope & encouragement
- Toothbrush & Toothpaste
- Hand Soap
- Body Wash (full size)
- Lip Balm
- Shampoo (full size)
- Conditioner (full size)
- Deodorant
- Body Lotion (full size)
- Comb
- Brush
- Tissues
- Several Snacks & Gum
- Scarf (used to tie purse closed)

OPTIONAL

Hygiene ~ Hand Sanitizer, Disposable Razor, Mouthwash, Feminine Products, Baby Wipes

Beauty ~ Nail Polish, Blush, Compact Mirror, Lipstick, Hair Accessories, Nail Clippers, Mascara, Nail File, Cotton Swabs, Body Spray

Other Ideas ~ Water, Book, Puzzle, Hat, Sewing Kit, Cough Drops, Gloves/Mittens, First Aid Supplies, Umbrella, Hand Warmers, Washcloth, Flashlight, Pen/Notepad, Jewelry, Small Monetary Gift or Gift Card, Socks, Travel Mug

Printed lists are available on the table in the Narthex



Shoe Us the Love

Make a difference one pair at a time.

Drop off your gently worn or new shoes that are still wearable, with intact soles and laces.

What kind of shoes you ask!

Athletic Shoes, Crocs, Boots, Cleats, Heels and Sandals

All Shoes, All Sizes

Collected shoes are often donated to support micro-entrepreneurs in developing countries, creating opportunities for people to start small businesses.

Be sure to ask, friends, family, neighbors and co-workers to donate too!

Collection boxes located in the Narthex or in the vestibule for off hours drop-off.



Church Council

Church Council meet on Tuesday May 12 at 7 pm.
The meeting started with a devotion.

A committee has been formed with the intent of reviewing our Churches constitution which hasn't been reviewed in many years. The individuals that have volunteered to take on this task are Pastor Ned Dresser, Faye Heckman and Chris Brennan.

With the advent of cell phones, it is very difficult for the church to have the appropriate phone number and contact person in case of an emergency, so council has decided that it would be a good idea to have an emergency contact list for all individuals and members of our church. When you are asked, please provide the church with an emergency contact name and number so we can contact a loved one in case of an emergency.

Council discussed the Youth room and we feel that it needs to be updated and modernized. We believe that it can be done for very little cost and are currently working of a design. We will share the details as they become available.

Respectfully Submitted,
John R. Smith



Financial Report

We finished the month of April \$ 6,544.24
in the black (monthly income over expenses).

Monthly – Income for April \$24,217.93
Monthly – Expenses for April \$15,888.62

The General Offering \$20,575.59
Online Giving \$ 2,202.29
Loose Change \$ 275.15
Other Income \$ 1,164.90
Subtotal \$24,217.93

Thank you for your continued support!
Consider online giving
visit <http://zionslutheran.org/donate/>



Prayer Corner for Our Community of Faith

Immediate Concerns:

Darren Barto, Hazel Gough, Don Roth,
Colson and Courtney Dougherty

Ongoing Concerns:

Bill Gundrum, Matthew Patton,
Tracey Schaeffer, John Persons

Shut-Ins and Nursing Home/

Personal Care Residents:

Ruth Bensinger, Jean Daub, Mabel Fry,
Helen James, Grace Ketner, Kathrine Reinhart,
Christine Ryan, Carl Sechler, David Seidel,
Barbara Shafer, Shirley Sohon, Lester Wessner

Family and Friends

Grieving Recent Losses:

Carrie Heckman, Rita Miller, Jeff Neidermeyer



Reminder

With the arrival of the summer season, we look forward to a full calendar of events and activities. To help us share all upcoming plans, please submit any group updates to the office by Tuesday for inclusion in the weekly bulletin. We're excited for the many opportunities to gather, connect, and enjoy summer together!



Bulletin Items

Bulletin items should be submitted to the church office no later than close of business the Tuesday of the week of desired publishing.

Newsletter Items

Newsletter items should be submitted to the church office no later than the Monday following the council meeting in the month publishing is desired.



Crochet Group

We will be taking the summer off to enjoy the great outdoors. Please join us again in September.



Fellowship Time

A big thank you for the kitchen help and food donations for our Fellowship Time this year. We will resume our monthly gatherings in September.

The Fellowship Committee



Knotters Group

Please consider joining us in the Gold Room at 9:00 am Tuesday, June 9th & 23rd.

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

Patches are available in the church office.

We will be doing a Blessing of the Quilts on June 7th during service.

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



Senior Group

Our next Senior Group will meet

**Thursday, June 18th, 2026
in the Fellowship Hall,
11:00 am – 2:00 pm.**

Please bring a side dish to share for lunch and a friend to play board games and cards.

All ages welcome to join.

Hope to see you there!



Garden News

*A vegetable garden doesn't just feed your body.
It also feeds your soul* — Doug Green

May is coming to a close, and we have planted the cabbage, tomatoes, peppers, beans, and cucumbers.

Each week we continue to add more plants/seeds and set up the irrigation system to support them.

There is an ongoing need for volunteers to continue our plantings and tend to the growing harvest.

You are invited to help out with this ministry – once a week, once a month, or even just once!

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 added to the Garden

volunteer contact list, please email us at communitygarden@zionslutheran.org

or contact Lori at 610-401-1186.

Thank you, and hope to see you at the Garden!



Bike Rides

Join us June 13th for our monthly bike ride will be meeting at

the Church parking lot at 9am

We will then head to Gring's Mill

to the Red Bridge parking lot

At (2141 Tulpehocken Road).

Bring your bike, water, and 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!



The next WELCA meeting will be held on **Tuesday, August 11th at 6:00pm.**

All women of Zion's are welcomed to attend.

Hope to see you there!



Youth Room Update

The Youth Room is getting a fresh new upgrade! We want to create a welcoming space where our youth feel comfortable, connected, and at home. As part of this project, we are looking for donations of the following items:

- Area rug (approximately 9 ft x 12 ft)
- Lamps — one floor lamp and a few small table lamps
- 4-cube or 6-cube shelf (black)
- Small Sofa Table with Shelves (black)

If you have any of the listed items that you would be willing to donate, please send a picture and dimensions of the item to the church office to aid us in planning the design for the room.

If you have other ideas or items to help improve the Youth Room, please contact the office know. Thank you for helping to create a great space for our youth!



Opportunity House 2026

We are always looking for additional volunteers to assist with the food service at Opportunity House.

Please let me know if you are willing to either captain a team or assist with the food service. My email address is whoherchak@gmail.com or my phone number is 570-778-8403.

Thank you, Wanda Hoherchak.

2026 Schedule:

July 17 - November 20



2026 Flower & Bulletin Sponsors

Sign-up sheets are posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

The cost of bulletins is \$13.00 and flowers are \$40.00.



Zion's Library

Is Prayer your steering wheel or spare tire?

When the devil brings up your past,
bring up his future!

Library Additions:

The Secret to Complete Contentment
by Jack Countryman (Inspiration)

The Fiddler
by Beverly Lewis (Fiction)

Psalms
by Guidepost (Bible Study)

To Heaven and Back
by Mary C. Neal, M.D. (B10)

Understanding Biblical Prophecy
by Dr. David Jeremiah (Evangelist)



Faith Night at the Movies

Hamburg Strand Theatre

June 9, 2026 The Forge

July 14, 2026 Rocky

Aug. 11, 2026 When the Game Stands Tall

Sept. 8, 2026 Unsung Hero

Oct. 13, 2026 Beautiful Mind

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



Zion's Cemetery Co., Inc.

**Our Monthly Board Meeting will be held on
Thursday, June 4th at 9 am.**

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

Single or multiple grave lots are available for sale.

Please contact David Geschwindt, Cemetery Manager, 610-562-7421



Communion Change

Beginning on Sunday, June 21st, we will be using the same flow for communion whether we are receiving continuous communion or communing at the rail. When coming forward for communion, please use the center aisle. After receiving communion, please return to your pew using the side aisles.

This adjustment should help provide a smoother flow between tables and allow communion to continue being shared in the pews while the final table is returning to their seats.



As we continue to give thanks for God's blessings and the many ways He provides for our community and congregation, we invite everyone to take part in our special June offering opportunities. Your generous gifts help sustain our ministry, care for those in need, and keep our church a warm and welcoming place for all.

Fuel Envelope

The Fuel Envelope offering helps to cover the cost of heating fuel during cold winter months.

Your gifts enable us to keep our sanctuary and church building comfortable and inviting for worship, outreach, and fellowship during throughout the year.

World Hunger Envelope

Through the World Hunger Envelope, we join together with the ELCA World Hunger program to reach out beyond our walls, supporting efforts to feed the hungry and combat poverty both locally and around the world.

Every gift—big or small—helps bring hope and nourishment to those in need.

Every envelope, every gift, and every offering helps us share God's love in word and deed. Together, we can continue to build a vibrant, caring church community—rooted in faith and reaching out with compassion.



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

Classic camp is Sunday through Friday with 3 sessions of try camp from Sunday to Wednesday for those who have completed grades 1-3. Jr. and Sr. high program include a rafting trip and an expanded high ropes course.

First session of camp is June 21-26.

Last session of camp is August 9-14.

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 5-10)

Check the website bearcreekcamp.org for details about camp, dates, forms and FAQ. For details about how to access Zion's WELCA scholarships, contact Carol Rothermel - chipmunk_hill@comcast.net or 610-562-7620.



Grab-A-Tab Outreach

We are excited to announce that we will continue to collect
soda can tabs
to go to Hamburg Area School District for the
“Grab-A-Tab” program.

Ronald McDonald House “Grab A Tab” Story

Once a beverage or a product can is opened, the little tabs used to do the trick are often forgotten and discarded. A tool once vital to fulfilling its cause suddenly rendered useless and ends up at the bottom of a garbage pail. That little tab, however, is indispensable to Ronald McDonald Houses.

Ronald McDonald House relies on collection and recycling of tabs to help finance the many programs it offers and the day-to-day operation of the House. Tabs are weighed and cashed in by the pound.



The “Grab-a-Tab” program is a community friendly fund-raising program that allows people of all ages to join the effort to provide a “Home-Away-from-Home” to children with cancer and other serious illnesses and their families.



Danielle Cares for Chairs

We are collecting

BREAD TAGS

What is Danielle Cares for Chairs?

*Non-Profit

*Run by kids

*Collect bread tags + bring them to recycling plant =get proceeds for mobility products.

How to help?

*Collect bread tags bring them to school.

Where are bread tags found?

*Loaves of bread

*Fruits

*Vegetables

*Hamburger/Hotdog Buns

*Paper towels

3 million collected thus far 6 products given.

Teaches about sustainability and to give back to others.

Collection bin on table in Narthex.



Food Pantry

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

Cereal

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 23rd, from 6 pm to 7 pm.**

*For monthly and weather-related updates, the Northern Berks Food Pantry line is 610-562-8250



Historic Dreibelbis Farm

Sunday Open Houses

June 21st & July 19th from 2pm – 4pm

Guided tours will be hosted at the farm's 1868 farmhouse

June 21st will introduce mementos, stories, and artifacts relating to some notable folks who grew up on this farm.

July 19th we'll display and explain antique farm wagons and equipment.

There is a \$6 tour fee with free on-site parking



The Emmaus Chorale

You are invited to

The Faith Presbyterian Church

3002 N 2nd St, Emmaus, PA

June 7th, 3pm

Shalom ~ Songs of Peace

Donald Ryan, Conductor

Cindy Kerr, Accompanist



June Birthdays

- 2nd Wanda Hoherchak
- 3rd Avery Gruber
Steven Schumaker
- 6th Pamela Seidel
- 7th Robin Epting
- 8th Jaxon Seidel
- 9th Karen Weidner
- 10th Huck Costenbader
- 11th Scott Boltz
Crystal Koehn
Jane Seidel
MacKenzie Stocks
- 12th Michael Brennan
Matthew Hoffert
Jennifer Mazaika
Matthew Noecker
Devin Pond
- 13th James Turner
- 17th Richard Davis
- 18th Damian Ulrich
- 19th Jean Smith
- 20th Carol Smith
- 21st Tracie Heckman
Carolyn Hollenbach
Dennis Reinhart
John Williamson
- 24th Hannah Hix
Tara Yoh
- 25th Karen Heckman
- 27th McKenzie Clark
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

Jean Daub
1020 Railroad Rd.
Dauberville, PA 19533

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

Kathrine Reinhart
Grandview Manor
129 Houck Road
Fleetwood, PA 19522

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

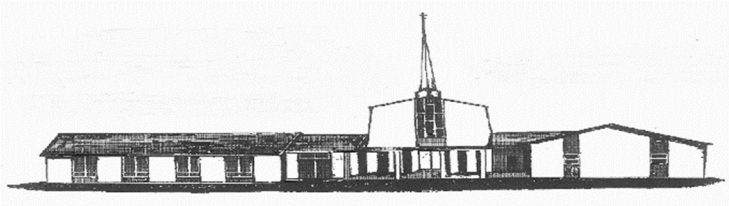
Barbara Shafer
21 East Noble
Shoemakersville, PA 19555

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



June 2026

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

June

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Office Closed	2 7 pm A.A. Meeting	3	4	5 F.H. Rental	6 F.H. Rental
7 9 am Worship Blessing of Quilts Graduates Recognition 6:30pm Cub Scouts & Boy Scouts	8 Office Closed	9 9 am Knotters 6 pm Alter Guild 7 pm Council Meeting 7 pm A.A. Meeting	10	11	12	13
14 9 am Worship 6:30 pm Cub Scouts & Boy Scouts	15 Office Closed July 2026 Newsletter Deadline Gold Room Reserved	16 7 pm A.A. Meeting Gold Room Reserved	17 Gold Room Reserved	18 11 am Senior Group 7 pm Property Meeting Gold Room Reserved	19 Gold Room Reserved	20 Gold Room Reserved
21 9 am Worship 6:30 pm Cub Scouts & Boy Scouts Gold Room Reserved	22 Office Closed VBS	23 9 am Knotters 7 pm A.A. Meeting VBS	24 VBS	25 VBS	26 VBS	27 Gold Room Reserved
28 9 am Worship 6:30 pm Cub Scouts & Boy Scouts	29 Office Closed	30 7 pm A.A. Meeting			** Services will be recorded and posted on the church's website and Facebook page every Sunday	** Watch for service info in bulletins, calendars & online