



*The  
Herald*

*May 2024*

Newsletter for the Congregation  
And Friends of  
**ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

101 N. Greenwood Street, Tamaqua, PA 18252

(570) 668-2180 ~ FAX (570)668-2181

Pastor ~ Cindy White

Melody Gensure ~ Parish Administrator - Email~ [zionlcof@verizon.net](mailto:zionlcof@verizon.net)

Parish website ~ [www.ziontamaqua.com](http://www.ziontamaqua.com)

*Our Mission: Empowered and inspired by God to bring others to Christ.*

Dear sisters, brothers and friends of Zion,

Spring is here in full bloom. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your steadfast prayers for my beloved mother “Beauty”. She passed on February 1<sup>st</sup> and her memorial was held April the 14th. I have received beautiful cards and generous memorials from many of you. I want to thank you for all you have done to help me through a very difficult time. I do not believe that I would have survived as well as I have without your support. I am extremely thankful for all of you. I would ask that your prayers continue. Many of you have experienced a great loss in your life. You know what a broken heart feels like. I am confident that Jesus carries us through these tender times. He advises us in Matthew 11:28-30 “Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy, and I will give you rest”.



I pray that this spring season gives each of us a renewed spirit for life and all it has to offer. There are so many wonderful things going on here at Zion. Please stay informed on our Facebook page and website.

I would ask for your prayers for three of our youth members who are planning to attend the ELCA youth gathering this coming July in New Orleans. They are so excited about going. They have planned quite a few fund raisers to help to supplement the expense. Two of our adult members will be traveling with them. Prayers are also need for our Licensed Lay minister in training, Michael Haspe. There will be much more information about these two items in the future.

Our diaper depot, culinary, blessings thrift store, property, council, Christian education department and choir are all amazing example of some of the things to be thankful for here. We just completed our youth service Sunday. It was wonderful. If you weren't in attendance, please look to up on our social media. You will be amazed. We also just had a luncheon for all of our disciples in service to God's church here at Zion. Another glorious day! Many thanks to La Dolce Casa for hosting us.

Please come and be a part of God's ever-growing church. God promises to make your heart glad.

May God continue to bless and keep you well. I hope to see you in church.

With love and appreciation,  
Pastor Cindy

**Morning Prayer on Facebook and Website:** Rev. Cindy White reads a selected Bible verse and offers a brief message or song Wednesdays at 9 a.m. Individuals with specific prayer requests can email those requests to Pastor White at [zionlutheranrev@gmail.com](mailto:zionlutheranrev@gmail.com).



Zion's Blessings Thrift Shop sale is on Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9 am to 5 pm. The sale features gently used clothing for all ages, toys, books, and general household items. Come take a look! Limited Take-Out Menu. Thank you all for your continued support!

Thank you to everyone who made our March Blessing Thrift Store a success. We served 230 people, and our total sales were \$3,133.14. Please keep this ministry in your prayers. Thank you, Outreach

*Altar Flower and Candle Sponsors are needed for 2024 - The Altar Flower and Candle Sponsor list for 2024 is on the bulletin board. The cost of the flowers are \$42.40, and individuals will be billed from the florist. You can also sponsor the Candles for the month at \$40. Please remember to fill out a card with your honorarium or memorial, this information is needed for the bulletin. Please do not sign up without filling out a form. Please contact the church office if you have questions. Thank you in advance!*



**Reminder:** If you have sponsored Altar Flowers or Candles for 2024, please fill out the information cards in the gathering room. The information is needed for the bulletin and the Florist. If payment for the sponsorship is not received prior to the date, the information will not be printed in the bulletin, please pay and fill out a form when you add your name on the list. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

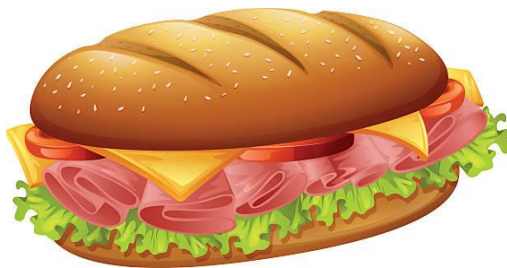


A reminder that both a record of communion AND a record of contribution is necessary to maintain voting active member status. Please remember to complete a communion card and to use your offering envelopes. Thank you, Church Council

# Culinary Hoagie Sale

The Culinary Team is holding a hoagie sale. Regular Hoagies are \$7 each. Order by Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, at <https://www.ziontamaqua.com> or by calling 570-668-4451. Pick up is

Thursday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> from noon until 3:00 pm. Thank you for your support!!



*Joyful Noise Offerings:* we collected \$107.08 for the March Joyful Noise collection for Smile Train, changing the world one smile at a time. Helping 1.9 million smiles in 2 decades all around the world. The Blessing Thrift Store will make up the difference and send \$200.00. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

## Joyful Noise 2023

Month	Given to	Collected	Given
Jan	Safe Streets	74.00	500.00
Feb	ELCA Middle East Crisis	488.04	1000.00
April	Tamaqua Meals on Wheels	97.80	150.00
April	Lutheran Disaster Response	88.80	150.00
May	Tamaqua Historical Society	82.39	100.00
July	Tamaqua Emergency Squad	117.30	2000.00
Sept	Lutheran Disaster Response Maui	545.84	1000.00
Sept	ELCA Good Gifts Honeybees	94.38	100.00
Nov	Boyers Food Pantry	117.30	117.30



## **ATTENTION GRADUATING CONFIRMED ZION MEMBERS: CLASS OF 2024**

Before you know it graduation will be here! Please submit a photo with information on high school graduating from, where you will be attending school or what your future plans may be, major, parents' names and how you were involved with Zion. You may submit a photo now with more information to follow later to the church office. Thank you.

**Looking for a way you can help serve your church, but don't have a lot of extra time? Are you able to commit to a half hour, on a day you will already be here? We are looking for greeters to welcome people to the church on Sunday mornings, hand out bulletins, and answer questions from visitors. We would like to have enough people to make up at least 6 teams, with 2 people per team. Please text or call Brian Lawfer at 570-952-5966 for more information.**



**Zion is on Instagram. Go to the website or Facebook for complete instructions or scan the QR code.**

## **Upcoming Events**

- May 3 & June 7** – Blessings Thrift Store
- May 9** – Pasta Dinner
- May 23** – Hoagie Sale
- June 13** – Strawberry Social
- June 17 – 21** - VBS



# PASTA Dinner

**May 9, 2024**

**4:00 pm to 6:00 pm**

**Cost - \$12.00**

**Children - \$7.00**



**Menu: Pasta, Meatballs, salad, bread, and dessert. Come enjoy some good food and fellowship! Hope to see you there!**



## **Celebration of Baptism**

Please welcome Nikko Allen Flexer, son of Jordon & Briann Flexer, as a member of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church. Nikko's Godparents are Sarai Fortin, Jonathan Fortin and Karri Garber. He received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism during our Sunday morning worship service on April 21, 2024; May the blessing of our Lord be upon the parents and godparents in nurturing this child in the light of faith. Please welcome family and friends who join us to celebrate.

# Save the Date - VBS June 17 - 21

In 2024 children will embark on another Adventure at "Camp Firelight". June 17-21, 2024, from 5:30 - 8:30 pm.

Camp Firelight is a Summer Camp Adventure with God! Surrounded by water, trees, and rolling hills, Camp Firelight is the perfect location for every Camper's favorite summer activities! During each assembly session, Campers join first-time camp counselor Sam and Lu (short for Lumen), the lightning bug puppet, and learn to face their fears while trusting in God. Each day, Campers see Counselor Sam face new challenges, from as simple as leading Campers on a hike to as intimidating as meeting a new and wise nature expert. With the help of Lu the Lightning Bug and the Camp Counselor Guidebook, Counselor Sam and our Campers explore timeless Bible stories that show how Old and New Testament Campers trusted God in the face of their own fears and went on to do great things in God's name.

Through these stories, this program will teach us about people in the Bible who experienced the gift of a trusting relationship with God. In addition, it will teach us to trust that God will go with us, lead the way, share wisdom, to give us peace, and spark joy as we celebrate the good news of Jesus in our own lives and in the lives of others. We will also learn ways we can connect with and put our trust in God whenever we are afraid, challenged, or called to do God's work in the world and share the Good News of God's love through Jesus Christ.

## Camp Callout:

Whenever I'm afraid I put my trust in You. Psalm 56:3

## Daily Firelight Focus:

Trust God to Go with Us!

Trust God to Lead the Way!

Trust God to Share Wisdom!

Trust God to Give us Peace!

Trust God to Spark Joy!



Artificial Christmas Trees: We are collecting artificial Christmas Trees for use at Vacation Bible School this summer. Contact Michael at [zionlutheraneducation@gmail.com](mailto:zionlutheraneducation@gmail.com). Thanks for your support of Vacation Bible School

**Zion's 2024 Church Council officers:** Michael Haspe, President, Brian Lawfer, Vice-President, Ernie Henritzky, Secretary, Dave Gensure, Treasurer, and Ann Marie Hadesty, Financial Secretary. Other members of Council include: Judy Brennan, Arlene Derr, Glenn Fritzingler, Thomas Graham, Carol Hartung, Steve Ristila, Brittany Scalfani and Mary Ruth Taylor; if you have suggestions or concerns, please seek out a member of Council so that we can promptly address the needs of the congregation.

**P**lease note if you have recently become a member or feel there are changes in your membership information please fill out a membership packet located in the Gathering Room. If you need them sent to you, please contact the church office. Thank you for keeping our records up to date.

Would you like to make a gift to our Capital Campaign today? Do you need an envelope for your gift? Blank envelopes can be found in the rear of the church on either side. Please just write your name and Capital Campaign on the envelope so we can give you credit; and place the envelope in the boxes found on the wall on either side at the back on the sanctuary. For information on our Capital Campaign, please visit our website at <http://www.ziontamaqua.com/capital-campaign/>



**Gebert Society** - If you know of someone who has remembered Zion in their will/estate with a gift (past and present), please contact the office with that information which will be used in the annual report. Names can be added to the Gebert Society at any time. Thank you.

Please Join Us!  
Saturday Worship – 5:30 pm  
Sundays  
Worship – 9:00 am  
Christian Education – 10:15 am



**DEADLINE:** All information for the **June/July/August 2024 issue of the “Herald”** is due at the church office no later than **Monday, May 20, 2024. Please note that this is a combined issue of the newsletter.** You may e-mail your information to [zionlcof@verizon.net](mailto:zionlcof@verizon.net) or stop in during regular office hours. Thank you for your co-operation!

**Hospitalizations** - If you or someone you know is hospitalized, please call the church office at 668-2180. Due to HIPAA Law names are no longer published in the newspaper and we are not contacted by the hospital unless the patient requests it, when admitted, let them know you are a member of Zion Lutheran church. Zion Lutheran Church Lehigh Valley System Hospital Code is 356; If you are admitted to a hospital in the Lehigh Valley Hospital system (not St. Luke’s/ Miner’s) and you want our church and Pastor to be notified, provide Zion’s Code # 356 when you provide admission information.



Synod E-News - E-News is a weekly e-newsletter for rostered leaders (pastors and deacons), congregational leaders and members, and anyone interested in

keeping up to date with happenings across the Synod and around the ELCA.  
[nepasynod.org/e-news/](http://nepasynod.org/e-news/)

Office Hours ~  
Monday & Wednesday  
12:00 – 5:00 pm  
Tuesday & Thursday  
8:00 am – 1:00 pm  
Pastor’s Office Hours ~  
Wednesday  
11:00 am – 5:00 pm

Please use door located on Mauch  
Chunk Street, ring bell



Psalms 113:9

He gives the barren  
woman a home,  
making her the  
joyous mother of  
children.

Praise the LORD!



Please continue to use your Boyer's key tag every time you shop in any Boyer's Markets. If you do not have a Boyer's tag, they are located in the Gathering room. Please use the swipe card, the receipt does not need to be turned in. Thank you for your participation in this program. Keep using those cards!

**We are collecting Redner's receipts.** Please put them in the container in the Gathering room or mail them to the church office. Please note if you are turning in Redner's receipts please do not cut off the Save a tape portion of the receipt, this makes it invalid and we cannot turn them in, thank you and keep saving!

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**Sharing your story** - As part of an ongoing emphasis on Zion's impact, we'd like to share ways in which Zion has made a difference in the lives of its members and its community. Please respond to any **ONE** of these questions and include **your name** at the end. Send your response to [zioncof@verizon.net](mailto:zioncof@verizon.net) (subject line "Impact story" or Zion Lutheran, 101 North Greenwood St., Tamaqua, PA 18252 Attention: Impact

1. How has Zion made a difference in your life? OR
  2. What impact has Zion had on your life the last 2 1/2 years? OR
  3. What is your vision for the future of Zion's ministry? OR
  4. How has serving in a Zion ministry made a difference in your life?
- 



Do you like to clean? Some people really like to clean--honest! If you do, why not join the Cleaning Angel team? We are looking for about 2 or 3 more members to add to the team. Cleaning Angels are members of the congregation who each week clean the Sanctuary, Gathering Room and Library. When two people do that cleaning, it can take 2-3 hours. Being a Cleaning Angel is not intended to be a lifelong commitment and so we thank those who have served and "retired." That means there are openings in the cleaning schedule for other members of the congregation to step up and help keep the church clean. This is a great opportunity to serve your church. The hours are flexible and there's lots of great fellowship involved. Please contact any member of the Property Committee or Cleaning Sexton Kim Eckert or Parish Administrator Melody Gensure.

***March/ April Memorials***  
***GIFTS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD***

***THE ALTAR CANDLES*** are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of the birthday of Miriam Fegley, mother, grandmother & friend by Kris & Frank Rudy & family

In loving memory of family and friends by Gerry Zeigler

***THE ALTAR FLOWERS*** are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of loved ones by Kris & Frank Rudy & family

In loving memory of the March 9<sup>th</sup> birthday of her son, Mark Rudenko by Fern Rudenko

In loving memory of the March 14<sup>th</sup> birthday of son, Todd Rudenko by Fern Rudenko

In loving memory of her father, Augustus Rizzardi, on his birthday March 23<sup>rd</sup> by George and Mary Ruth Taylor

In loving memory of Lilly & Herman Houser by Glenn & Lorie Fritzingler

In loving memory of Joseph Coleman by the Coleman family

In loving memory of the April 14<sup>th</sup> birthday of her mother, Doris Huegel by Fern Rudenko

In loving memory of beloved husband, father, and grandfather, Joseph Harvilla whose birthday was April 17<sup>th</sup> by Roxanne Harvilla, Tiffany, Matthew and Kinsley Warden

In loving memory of my husband, John and all our family and friends by Sharon Haldeman

***THE BULLETINS*** are given to the Glory of God and

For the prosperity of our church in our hometown & community by Stacey Faust & Emily Stahler

***THE PALMS*** are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of our son, Brian & family & friends by Dave & Darlene Fetterman

***THE PALM CROSSES*** are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of her son, John Carl Casler Jr. by Dave & Melody Gensure, sisters, Ashly, Alesia, and Alyssa, nieces, Aubry, Adalynn, Ava & Amelia & nephews, Bradlee & Camdyn

***CURRENT FUND DONATIONS*** are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of Arbutus "Beauty" White-Hargis by John & Carol Dietrich & family

In loving memory of our son, Ells on his March 7<sup>th</sup> birthday by Ells and Gail Davis

In loving memory of my dad, Hub Becker by Beth Marcavage

In loving memory of Marion Klein by Beth Marcavage

In loving memory of Beauty White-Hargis by Beth Marcavage

Prayers for Mary and Elaine by Jon Hebert

In loving memory of Elaine by Jon Hebert

In loving memory of Carl & Mary Koch, Carl W. Koch Jr, family friends and loved ones by Carol, John & family

In loving memory for my husband's, Frank (Flip) Thompson, April 15<sup>th</sup> birthday by Nancy Thompson

In loving memory of sister, Rose (Miller) Smith for her belated birthday on April 7<sup>th</sup> & in honor of the April 13<sup>th</sup> birthday of Kathy Miller & April 17<sup>th</sup> birthday of son, Michael R. Miller by Mike Miller

In loving memory of Bob & Pearl Lauk by John & Carol Dietrich

In loving memory of Sam Alonge by Dave & Louise Schock

***ORGAN FUND DONATIONS*** are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of Arbutus (Beauty) White-Hargis by Eileen Wadlinger

In loving memory of Agnes Juris by Judy and Sonia

**ENDOWMENT FUND DONATIONS** are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of family and friends by Bill and Lori Krell

In loving memory of Arbutus Beauty White-Hargis by Mike & Kathy Miller

In loving memory of Marion Klein by John & Dana Donaldson

In loving memory of Arbutus White-Hargis by Danell Wolfe

In loving memory of Glen Lawson by Michelle Valentine

In honor of Sonia, Lisa, Mike, Doug and Ron by Judy

In loving memory of Keith Berezwick by Chris Fulmer

In loving memory of family & friends by John & Carol Dietrich & family

In loving memory of my dad/pap for his April 17<sup>th</sup> birthday by Carol, John, Jeff & Johnny

In loving memory of Carl & Fannie Wolfe by daughters, Beverly Agnor & Nancy Kabana & families

In loving memory of Larry Kabana by wife, Nancy, & sons, Kevin & John

In loving memory of John & Amelia Agnor by son, Bob & daughter-in-law, Beverly & their families

In loving memory of John & Helen Kabana by daughter-in-law, Nancy & families

In loving memory of Jack & Jesse Agnor by brother, Bob & sister-in-law, Beverly & their families

**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FUND DONATIONS** are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of the February birthdays of our mothers, Edith Bellman and Olga Pecha by Irene and Paul Pecha

In loving memory of Bill Clemons by John & Carol Dietrich

In loving memory of Lee Sassaman by John & Carol Dietrich

**SCHOLARSHIP FUND DONATIONS** are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of Billy Luksavage, rest in peace, Judy

**HELPING HAND FUND DONATIONS** are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of the April 29<sup>th</sup> birthday of Mrs. Pauline Schissler by Barry & Marlene McLaughlin & sons

**IMPROVEMENT FUND DONATIONS** are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of my parents, John and Mae Barton by Beverly Barton Knoebel

In loving memory of my grandmother, Gertrude Kemner Reichelderfer by Beverly Barton Knoebel

## Easter Memorials 2024

**The Easter Floral Cross is presented to the Glory of God in loving memory of...** Alma Fisher by husband, Robert Fisher

**The Easter Lilies are presented to the Glory of God...**

In loving memory of McKayla Ann Wall by Laruen, Jesse, Nicholas & Kallia Wall

In loving memory of my husband, Karl C. Miller on Easter Day by wife,  
Katherine I. Miller

In loving memory of granddaughter, Kendall McLaughlin by grandparents, Barry & Marlene McLaughlin & uncles, Eddie & Chris

In loving memory of Emily Turrano by Glenn & Lorie Fritzinger

In loving memory of her husband, Russell Rudenko by his wife, Fern Rudenko

In loving memory of her son, Todd Rudenko by his mother, Fern Rudenko

In loving memory of her son, Mark Rudenko by his mother, Fern Rudenko

In loving memory of her parents, Doris and Irvin Huegel by Fern Rudenko



In loving memory of her brother, Stanley Huegel by Fern Rudenko  
In loving memory of her sister, Joyce Olencki by Fern Rudenko  
In loving memory of Richard Dreisbach lovingly, Bob & Terri Livingston  
In honor of my parents, Judy Brennan and Roger Brode by Sonia Brode  
In loving memory of Jane & Eugene Springer by Sonia Brode  
In loving memory of Anna & Robert Brode by Sonia Brode

***Easter Memorial Gifts to the Current Fund are given to the Glory of God:***

In loving memory of my husband, Karl C. Miller on Easter Day by wife, Katherine I. Miller  
In loving memory of my brother-in-law, Karl C. Miller on Easter by sister-in-law, Charlotte Scheidly  
In loving memory of John Carl Casler Jr. by his mother, Melody, & sisters, Ashly, Alesia, & Alyssa  
In loving memory of Brian Fetterman love, Ashly, Aubry, and Camdyn  
In loving memory of Carl W. Koch Jr., Bill Clemons, and Lee Sassaman by John & Carol Dietrich  
In loving memory of mother, Mary K. Hebert by Jon Hebert  
In loving memory of Francis & Dorothy (Rother) Epler by daughters, Frances, Joan, and Carol

***Easter Memorial Gifts given to the Endowment Fund are presented to the Glory of God...***

In loving memory of Claude & Mary Jane Turton & Brian Turton by Janel & Tom Tirpak & family  
In loving memory of parents/grandparents, Carl & Mary Koch, by Carol, John, Jeff, & Johnny  
In loving memory of brother/uncle, Carl W. Koch Jr., by Carol, John, Jeff, & Johnny  
In loving memory of granddaughter, McKayla Ann Wall by Dave & Louise Schock  
In loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. E. A. Follweiler from their children and their families  
In loving memory of Michael Cappos by his wife, sons & families  
In loving memory of Jay Follweiler by his brother and sisters  
In loving memory of family & friends by Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Mehalko  
In loving memory of my mother, Shirley L. Becker by her daughter, Suzanne Cunningham  
In loving memory of his parents, Marvin & Agnes & her father, Stanley Karnish by Mr. & Mrs. Steve Ristila

In loving memory of parents and friends by Gerry Zeigler  
In loving memory of her husband, Russell Rudenko by his wife, Fern Rudenko  
In loving memory of her son, Todd Rudenko by his mother, Fern Rudenko  
In loving memory of her son, Mark Rudenko by his mother, Fern Rudenko  
In loving memory of her mother, Doris Huegel by Fern Rudenko  
In loving memory of her father, Irvin Huegel by Fern Rudenko  
In loving memory of her brother, Stanley Huegel by Fern Rudenko  
In loving memory of her sister, Joyce Olencki by Fern Rudenko  
In loving memory of her father-in-law & mother-in-law, Ignatius & Mary Rudenko by Fern Rudenko  
In loving memory of her sister and brother-in-law, Dorothy & Thomas Daniels by Fern Rudenko  
In loving memory of her aunt & uncles, Harold & Dorothy Price, Jerome & Laverne Murphy, & George & Bernice Althoff by John & Carol Dietrich & family  
In loving memory of my parents, Ted & Eulalia Weston by Walter Weston  
In loving memory of her parents, Dorothy & Jasper Collura by David & Ann Marie Hadesty & family  
In loving memory of his parents, David & Gayle Hadesty by David & Ann Marie Hadesty & family  
In loving memory of his parents, James & Kathleen Valentine by Mark & Charlene Valentine  
In loving memory of her parents, Mary & Joseph Dakes by Mark & Charlene Valentine  
In loving memory of my parents, Loyal and Bernice Ferris, at Easter by Sandy Scott

Never heard of us?  
Scan the QR Code for more  
information!



SCAN ME

# M.A.R.A.

**Medication-Assisted  
Recovery Anonymous®**



**NEW  
In-Person  
Meeting!**

Where to find us?

**New Roots Recovery Support Center**

232 Pine St.

Tamaqua PA, 18252

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**MONDAYS 7PM-8PM  
Starting March 18<sup>th</sup>**

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Anyone with a desire to live a safe  
lifestyle is welcome!

MARA International™

YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE ON MEDICATION ASSISTANCE TO JOIN

# ZION FINANCIAL AS OF MARCH 31, 2024

Here is our report to the Zion congregation for the first quarter of 2024. If you have any questions, please address a member of the Finance Committee.

## CHURCH BUDGET INCOME

OFFERING AND GIFTS	48,054.07
CULINARY EVENTS	8,000.00
BLESSING THRIFT SALES	1,566.57
ENDOWMENT	22,006.00
<b>TOTAL BUDGET INCOME</b>	<b>79,626.64</b>

## CHURCH BUDGET EXPENSES

SALARIES/REMUNERATION	30,526.04
OIL	10,234.63
POSTAGE	0.00
TAXES	878.03
MAINT & REPAIR	131.31
WATER, SEWER	656.00
PHONE/INTERNET	473.91
ELECTRIC	1,412.00
INSURANCE	0.00
OTHER MISC EXPENSES	8,433.37
<b>TOTAL BUDGET EXPENSES</b>	<b>52,745.29</b>

Yours in Christ,

Zion Finance Committee: Bob Jones, Chair; Ann Marie Hadesty, Financial Secretary; Dave Gensure, Treasurer; Walter Weston, Endowment Coordinator; Matt Warden; Rochelle Evanousky; Steve Ristila; Sam Caley; George Taylor.

Palm Sunday at Zion included a "Bring a Friend" breakfast. Lots of people stayed after the service for food and fellowship. Thank you, Culinary Team!



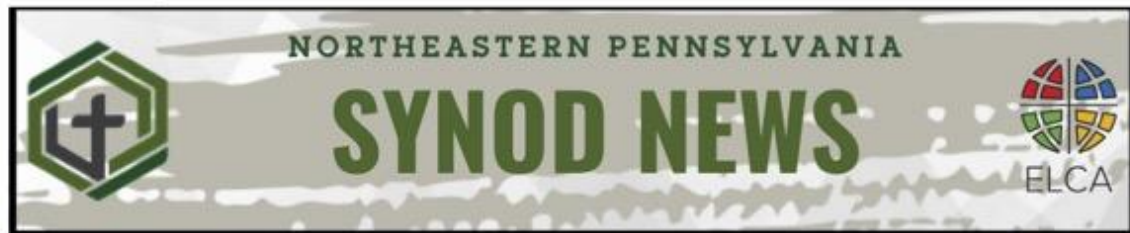
Lenten Dinners  
with the Culinary  
Ministry





It takes a lot of volunteers to keep Zion running smoothly why not consider helping out. You'll be glad you did! Some of Zion's many volunteers from our Volunteer Luncheon...





WE ARE CHURCH  
TOGETHER

2024



## STORYTELLING ENGAGEMENT

### Experiments in Ministry

A story from the Central States  
Synod

As you read this story, what connects with you?  
What experiments are occurring in your synod  
and congregation?

How often have you heard folks in congregations lament that they just don't have the resources or learning opportunities they need to be strong leaders and vital congregations? The [Central States Synod](#) wondered how it could help address those needs and make access easy. That led to the beginning of the [Ministry Lab](#). The synod envisions the lab as a place to ask questions, learn, work with different "tools" or resources, and experiment to see what works. A lab is not just a depository for resources; it's an active place where one can gather and engage with others.

When visiting congregations, attending conferences or meeting partners, staff and leaders in the Central States Synod diligently listen to folks to identify common needs and areas of growth so that they can equip and support ministry. The goal of the Ministry Lab is to provide ***"resources and tools so that we may live out God's purpose, united with Christ, as we walk the way of Jesus."***

Ministry  
**Lab**

The lab has three areas of focus: *good order*, meaning leadership, policies, building use, stewardship and meeting protocol; *means of grace*, including biblical interpretation, worship, communication and welcoming; and *living faith*, such as community engagement, social statements, collaboration and technology. Since the Ministry Lab began in fall 2023, it has offered opportunities focused on Scripture interpretation, ideas for worship and preaching during Advent, and leadership development. People learn through active engagement, not passive observation, so the Learning Lab is always lively. Some opportunities are "one and done" whereas others consist of multiple sessions.

Moving forward, the Ministry Lab is excited to offer an open conversation with the Rev. Susan Candea, bishop of the Central States Synod, about the upcoming ELCA social statement *Civic Life and Faith*, a Collaboration Lab in May and a Communications Lab in the fall. Anyone anywhere can check out and learn from the Central States Synod Ministry Lab. [See what's available now!](#)

Remember that a portion of offerings given to Central States congregations becomes Mission Support for the synod and allows staff and leaders to address congregations' needs and interests through the Ministry Lab, today and into the future.



# BEAR CREEK CAMP

Join us for May Play Day  
and Family Work Day

## MAY PLAY DAY & WORK DAY

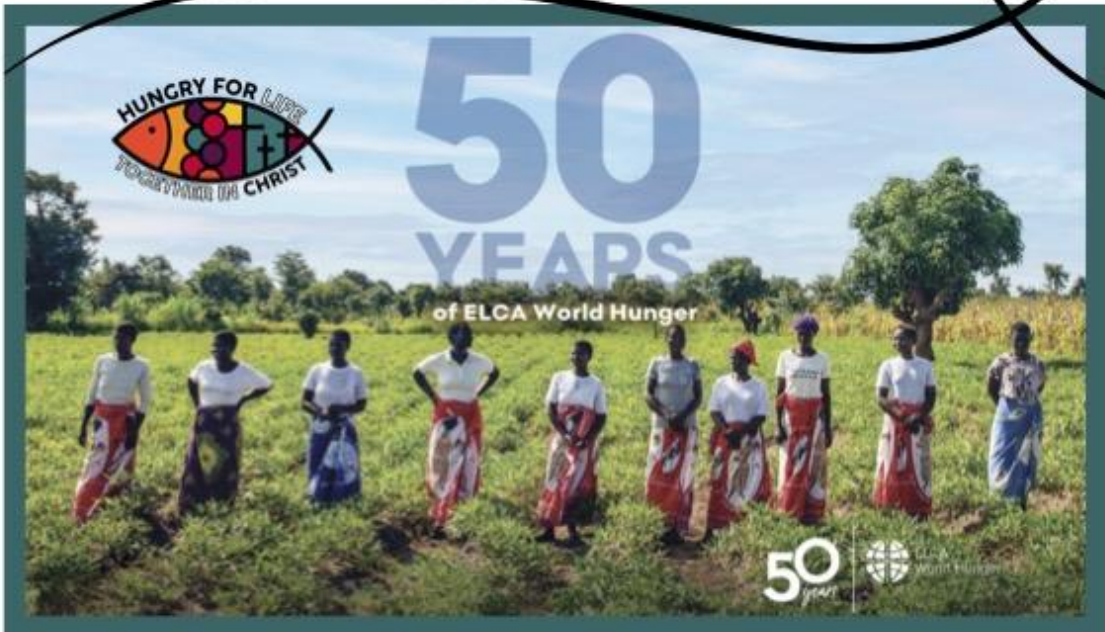
Saturday, May 4th

9:00 am - Work Day Begins  
11:00 am - May Play Day Begins  
Rec hall open (foosball, ping pong, etc.)  
Nature center open  
Hiking/exploring  
Main camp tour  
12:00 pm - Free Lunch for All  
1:00 pm - Gathering in the Courtyard  
OSA about BCC Summer Camp  
1:00 - 3:00 pm - Activities Continued  
Guided hike on Lenape Trail  
Camp store open  
Rec hall open  
Boating

Join us for an open house day at BCC, Saturday, **May 4th from 11am-3pm!** Explore camp, meet staff, boat, hike, craft, and fellowship with our camp community. Cookout lunch is available to all and there is no cost.

Prior to May Play Day, starting at 9:00am, everyone is invited to help with projects around camp as we prepare for summer. All skill levels are welcome and lunch is provided.

Registration for both May Play Day and Family Work Day is available at the link below. Pre-registration is appreciated, but not required.



ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
101 N. Greenwood Street  
Tamaqua, PA 18252

Return Service Requested

This Newsletter was prepared  
Especially for:



***May 2024  
Newsletter***

*Happy Mother's Day!*