



*The
Herald*

November 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

Parish website ~ www.ziontamaqua.com

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

Blessings of Peace people and friends of Zion,

There will be many tables set for this year's Thanksgiving gatherings. There is great unrest around the world. I want to bring us back to the most important table. Jesus reminds us in Luke 22:19-20 Jesus blesses bread, breaks it, and gives it to his disciples, saying, *"Take, eat, this is my body"*. He takes wine and says, *"This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood which is shed for all people. Take this and drink"....do these things for the remembrance of me."*

Our thanksgiving tables are the perfect place to give thanks for all of our blessings. The greatest of these is Jesus.

It is during these uncertain times that we can be assured that God is with us, for us and wants the very best for all of God's people. I am extremely thankful to be serving for you all here at Zion. God has placed it on my heart to serve the people of Christ Conyngham as well. There is a considerable shortage of pastors around the country. Our NEPA synod is working prayerfully and diligently to ensure a greater supply of leadership for God's churches. The ELCA is in complete support of the synod's plan. Each church in Northeast Pennsylvania will be lifting up a licensed lay minister candidate. They will be helping the pastors to serve the churches. We are prayerfully supporting and encouraging Michael Haspe in this vocation. Please pray for him and give him words of encouragement. He has two years of course work and many 'boxes to check' to complete his instruction. I am so excited that we have such an enthusiastic candidate. His work as our Christian education director has been and continues to be a blessing to and for all of us. I do have another person in mind for this vocation. (from our congregation) I will keep you posted. If you have any questions pertaining to the Licensed Lay ministry program, please seek me out. I would be happy to speak with you about it.

We are just coming out of the month of October, and I want to thank all of you for your support for the Tamaqua Hunger Campaign. There were so many ways to contribute to this worthy cause. It was a delight to see all of the people working together. Let us continue to support all of the ministries here in our town.

Our ministries here at Zion continue to thrive. My gratitude goes out to all who contribute to them financially or in a "hands on" capacity. Please KNOW that all of our ministries are interested IN YOU playing a part in our "bringing God's kingdom" to earth.

I continue to pray for all of you. Please pray for me.... that God's will be done, as I serve two churches in Jesus's name.

Stay well and safe children of God and please remember Jesus at your thanksgiving tables. 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.

FIRST COMMUNION

Classes are held on three Sunday mornings:

Sunday, **November 3, 10, & 17**, from **11:00 am – 12:30 pm**

Children who are in **5th grade or older** and who **have been baptized** (or who would like to be baptized) are eligible for first Holy Communion. **A parent or relative who is a member of Zion Lutheran Church** are required to accompany them to classes and worship.



First Communion is scheduled for **Sunday, November 24, 2024, during the 9:00 am worship service. Parents, please register your child (ren) now by calling 570-668-2180**



Zion Thanksgiving Potato/ Bread Filling Sale -
Homemade potato/ bread filling \$14 a tray (9x12) or \$8 a quart. Order forms will be in the Gathering Room or call Mary Ruth at 570-668-4451. Pick up: Monday, November 25th between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Deadline for orders is November 17th. Thank you for your support!

Zion's Blessings Thrift Shop sale is on Friday, November 1, 2024 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!



All Saints Sunday 2024

The greatest hope we have, as people of God, is the hope of resurrection; the promise that the powers of death can and will not keep us from God's eternal embrace.

Since last "All Saints' Day" several Zion Church's family and friends have died and share with all the saints in that promise of salvation. On Saturday, November 2, 2024 and All Saints Sunday, November 3, 2024, we will remember each of them. During the Liturgy a votive candle will be lit as each name is read. We are remembering the following:

Marlin J. Tirpak - 11/15/23
Carol A. Moyer - 11/23/23
Mildred M. Koch - 12/11/23
Marion C. Klein - 1/4/24
Arbutus White-Hargis - 2/1/24
Fern L. Rudenko - 6/18/24
Other Zion Family and Friends

"For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

The purpose of this brief commemoration is not to remind you of the sorrow nor add to the burden of grief. Instead, our purpose is to focus on the message of the Gospel:

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have everlasting life."

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Tamaqua Community Soup Sale. We distributed over 230 quarts of soup. All proceeds benefit the food pantries and food ministries in Tamaqua.





Sunday Church Advent Breakfast

December 1, 2024

10:30 AM TO 12:00 Noon

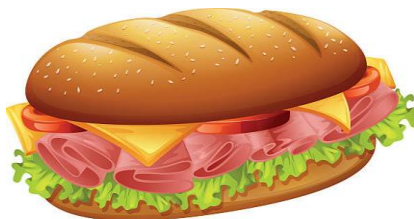


TO BEGIN THE ADVENT SEASON CULINARY WILL BE HOSTING A TIME OF FELLOWSHIP ADVENT BREAKFAST. MENU: SCRAMBLED EGGS, SAUSAGE OR BACON, AND TOAST. A FREE-WILL OFFERING WILL BE ACCEPTED.

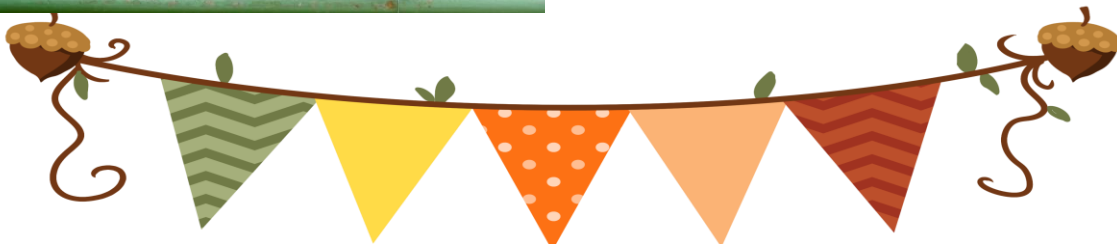
HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

Culinary Hoagie Sale

The Culinary Team is holding a hoagie sale. Regular Hoagies are \$7 each. Order by November 10th, at <https://www.ziontamaqua.com> or by calling 570-668-4451. Pick up is Thursday, November 14th from 11:00 am until 1:00 pm. Thank you for your support!!



Altar Flower Sponsors are needed for 2024 - The list for is on the bulletin board. The cost of the flowers are \$42.40, and individuals will be billed from the florist. 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!



Upcoming Events

- November 1** – Blessings Thrift Store
- November 2 & 3** – All Saints Remembrance
- November 3, 10, & 17** – First Holy Communion Classes
- November 4** – Diakon Open Enrollment Event
- November 18** – Newsletter Deadline
- November 24** – 1st Holy Communion
- November 25** – Potato/ Bread Filling Pick-up
- November 26** – Community Thanksgiving Service
- December 1** – Church Advent Breakfast
- December 1** – Annual Fiscal Meeting
- December 8** – Family Christmas Event
- December 12** – Hoagie Sale
- December 24** – Christmas Eve Services at 4:00 and 9:00 pm
- January 1** – New Year Pork and Sauerkraut Dinner

Celebration of Baptism

Please welcome Sawyer James Montecalvo, son of Jaime (Price) and Nicholas Montecalvo as a member of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church. Sawyer's Godparent is Ashley Price. He received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism during our Sunday morning worship service on October 6, 2024; May the blessing of our Lord be upon the parents and godparent in nurturing this child in the light of faith.



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

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.





**DO NOT PUT BOXES OR BAGS
ON THE HANDICAPPED RAMP**

**CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE
AT 570-668-2180 OR
GREEN DROP AT 888-944-3767**

THANK YOU-ZION OUTREACH

*Have a Blessed
Thanksgiving from the
staff at Zion!*





HAVE A HAPPY

Thanksgiving

Community Thanksgiving Service

Trinity UCC

Tuesday, November 26, 2024

7:00 pm

***Sponsored by the Tamaqua
Ministerial Association***

Blessings Thrift — Please ensure items being donated are “gently” used. Clothing and bedding should be free of holes, stains and pet hair. We cannot accept items with company names, advertisements or personal name labels (such as those from nursing homes or hospitals.). Electronics and small appliances should be in good working order. Toys and games must include all pieces. Due to an overabundance of donations, we ask that you call the church office at (570)668-2180 and leave your contact information. Your name will be put on a list, and someone will contact you when we are able to accept your items. Please **DO NOT** leave bags or boxes at random places in the church, on the stage or outside of the building. Thank you for your cooperation. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

Donations needed: Items needed for the stuffing sale. All or part of the following items:

Needed:

35 -loaves of white bread

15 lb- butter

4 -stocks celery

10 -32 oz containers of chicken stock

2 gallons -whole milk.

Please let Glenn know of your donation at 484-560-8211 or Mary Ruth 570-668-4451 a.s.a.p. All donated items except the milk need to be in the kitchen by November 21st to know what items need to be purchased. Counting on you to help make this culinary event a success.

Thank you,
Glenn

CHRISTMAS 2024

POINSETTIA PLANTS and MEMORIAL GIFTS

Christmas poinsettia plants will decorate the Church on Christmas Eve. Plants ordered through the church office are \$9.00. December 9th is the last day to order your plants. **This is a firm deadline; no orders will be taken after that date.** Please return the bottom of this form with all monies no later than December 9, 2024; all checks should be made out to Zion Evangelical Church. All Plants and Monetary Christmas memorial gifts will be listed in the handout on Christmas Eve. Monetary gifts should be in the church office **NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 16th**. **PLEASE FILL OUT THE FORM BELOW** and return it to the church office, be sure to indicate whether monetary gifts go to **Endowment fund, Current fund, Cemetery, Fuel, Capital Campaign** or towards the candles that decorate the sanctuary. Extra order forms are available by the bulletin Board.

IN MEMORY OF _____

BY _____

POINSETTIA (\$9.00)

MONETARY GIFT TO: Amount: _____

___ Red @ \$9.00

___ Current

___ Endowment

___ Cemetery

___ Fuel

_____ Total

___ Candles

___ Capital Campaign

SIGNATURE _____

PHONE NUMBER _____



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: Arlene Derr, Glenn Fritzinger, Thomas Graham, Carol Hartung, Amanda Hascin, 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.

Please 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 - 6:00 pm
Sunday
Worship - 9:00 am
Christian Education - 10:15 am
Confirmation - 11:00 am

DEADLINE: All information for the **December 2024/ January 2025 issue of the “Herald”** is due at the church office no later than **Monday, November 18, 2024.** Please note that this is a combined issue of the newsletter. You may e-mail your information to 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.



NEPA SYNOD
NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD

Weekly 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. Sign-up today at www.nepasynod.org/e-news

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

Please use door located on Mauch Chunk Street, ring bell

Psalms 28:7

The LORD is my
strength and my shield;
in him my heart trusts;
so I am helped, and my
heart exults,
and with my song I
give thanks to him.



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!

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 zionlcof@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.

October Memorials

GIFTS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

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

In loving memory of our son, Brian by Dave and Darlene Fetterman

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

In loving memory her parents, Russ and Fern Rudenko by Debbie Rudenko

In honor of Matthew Warden's birthday on October 7th by Tiffany & Kinsley Warden & Roxanne Harvilla

In loving memory of John Lattanzi on his 66th birthday from wife, Beth & daughter, Olivia

In loving memory of the October 26th birthday her mother, Dorothy Collura by Ann Marie & David Hadesty & family

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

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

In loving memory of Brian Fetterman by Mr. and Mrs. Joe Mehalko

In honor of the October 14th Wedding Anniversary of Dave & Louise Schock

In loving memory of Richard Dreisbach by Bob & Terri Livingston

In loving memory of Cheryl Crawford by Bob & Terri Livingston

In loving memory of his parents birthdays, Samuel Miller on October 18th & Stella Miller on October 9th by Mike & Kathy Miller

In loving memory of her father, John Stunda, by Marge Felsoci

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

In loving memory of Brian Fetterman by George, Mary Ruth, Brandon and Michael Taylor

In loving memory of the 92nd birthday on October 16th of Madeline Gram Trakes by Mike & Kathy Miller & family

In honor of the 5th anniversary on October 18th of Samantha & Oliver Monck by Mike & Kathy Miller

An Altar Flower sponsor is needed for November 10th.

Please sign up on the church bulletin board.

Annual Fiscal Meeting Announcement - The Annual Fiscal Meeting will be held on Sunday, December 1, 2024 immediately following the service. The agenda items will be restricted to the establishment of a 2025 budget, and the election of Church Council members. The meeting will be brief but your participation is **Very Important** as a quorum needs to be met. Copies of the budget will be available in the Gathering room.



Medicare Counseling at Zion!

November 4, 2024 - 9:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Medicare's Annual Open Enrollment Period begins October 15 and runs through December 7. During this time, you can make changes to your Prescription Drug Plan or Medicare Advantage Plan. It is vital that Medicare beneficiaries assess their current plan to determine whether or not it will meet their cost and coverage needs for 2025.

Zion Lutheran Church has partnered with Diakon to provide this no-cost service for the beneficiaries of the Tamaqua community.

This service is by appointment only. If you would like to schedule an appointment with a PA MEDI counselor from Diakon, please call 570-624-3026.

The PA MEDI program provides unbiased information regarding Medicare and its related programs. Schuylkill County's PA MEDI program is managed by Diakon Community Services under a contract with the Schuylkill County Office of Senior Services through funding by the PA Department of Aging. We do not sell insurance nor are we affiliated with any insurance company.

Our number one mission is to ease the stress Medicare beneficiaries face when having to make decisions regarding their health insurance!

Zion's Culinary Ministry at work making close to 500 halupkis. Thanks to everyone who participates in this ministry and those who support its activities.





DIAPER MINISTRY BEGINS 6TH YEAR
Diaper Depot, the free diaper ministry at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, began its sixth year Oct. 19. The ministry is a community outreach of the congregation. In its five years of distributing diapers, the ministry has handled 3,050 requests and delivered 153,140 diapers. Depot had been a pantry of the Greater Philadelphia Diaper Bank for 4 ½ years and is now associated with the Lehigh Valley Diaper Bank. Diaper requests can be made on the Zion website at <https://www.ziontamaqua.com/diaper-depot/>.

Above: Diaper assemblers Roxanne Harvilla, Skip Anderson, Martha Zellner, Mary Ruth Taylor and Beth Marcavage. Other members of the ministry team include Marilyn Leipold, Pastor Cindy White, Joe Oliver and George Taylor.

PLEASE WELCOME OUR CONFIRMANDS –

Liberty Alexandria Coleman, Sophia Anne Kupetz, Kevin Michael Lawfer, and Reiley Elizabeth Faust have affirmed their baptism on October 27, 2024 through the Rite of Confirmation. Please give thanks for the commitment they are making to God and to the Church. We congratulate them on this special day and important step in their life journey.





NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

LWR Ingathering: Can you believe we filled the Truck!



On Saturday, September 21, the NEPA Synod hosted our first local Lutheran World Relief (LWR) Ingathering to collect Mission Quilts and Kits destined for the Baltimore warehouse. Congregations collect donations and assemble various LWR kits – Personal Care, School, Baby Care or Fabric kits – for their “God’s Work. Our Hands.” service projects. Quilts are typically made all year long with a celebration Blessing of the Quilts and Kits through the fall season. Our LWR Ingathering was scheduled to coincide with these activities, to collect donations and coordinate transportation to the Baltimore warehouse. As a new venture, we were very curious to see the turnout from local churches.

As is typical with our Synod, the response was AMAZING! During our 3 hour collection period, cars, trucks and vans kept coming filled with as many boxes as could be carried! Most congregations brought Personal Care Kits totaling 570 kits from Trinity Lutheran in Robesonia, St. John’s Lutheran in Stroudsburg, Trinity Lutheran in Topton, Trinity Lutheran in Perkasio, Zion Lutheran in Womelsdorf, Emmanuel’s Lutheran in Emmanuelville and St. John’s Lutheran in Allentown. The largest quantity donated were School Kits totaling 595 kits from Zion Lutheran in Womelsdorf, Good Shepherd Lutheran in Northampton and St. Stephen’s Lutheran in Bethlehem. Fifty-four (54) Mission Quilts were collected from St. John’s Lutheran in Slatington, St. Paul’s Lutheran in Douglassville and St. John’s Lutheran in Allentown. Fourteen (14) Baby Care kits were collected from St. John’s Lutheran in Allentown.

On October 12, through the generous donation of Kristi Parcel-Smith of Remax in Allentown, we drove her company’s truck to





Christ Lutheran Church in Reading to collect donations from three additional churches. We added more boxes containing 207 Mission Quilts from Reformation Lutheran in Reading and Robeson Lutheran in Plowville. We also added 110 Personal Care Kits from Nativity Lutheran in Reading and St. Paul's in Reading. We continued our journey on to Bergstrasse Lutheran Church in Ephrata where volunteers loaded our boxes onto a tractor-trailer headed to Baltimore on Monday, October 14. What an amazing outpouring of love for our neighbors in need!

Typically, LWR Quilts and Kits are sent around the world. Following Hurricane Helene, LWR Quilts and Personal Care Kits are being distributed throughout the devastated areas in the Carolinas and Georgia. Donations at our Ingathering represent only a portion of the total contributions to LWR from our Synod, as some congregations ship their donations directly to the Baltimore warehouse or attend a closer Ingathering. Several of our churches bring their donations to an Ingathering in Auburn, PA, and three churches delivered their donations directly to Bergstrasse Church.

Submitted by: Eileen Lane, St John Lutheran, Allentown



Each of the 9 mission districts of the Northeastern PA Synod will host open conversations with Bishop Christopher deForest, VP Nancy Reichelt, and DEM Deacon Kat Tigerman. These Town Hall events will be held on different evenings at various locations. All congregation members and rostered ministers within the respective mission districts are invited to attend.

To find out when your mission district town hall meeting is, visit [godslove.org/events](https://www.godslove.org/events)

ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

101 N. Greenwood Street

Tamaqua, PA 18252

Return Service Requested

This Newsletter was prepared
Especially for:



*November
2024 Newsletter*