

THE MESSENGER

THE NEWSLETTER OF ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, SUNBURY PENNSYLVANIA



NEW TIME! Join us at **7am**

Zion Lutheran Church

15 South 5th Street
PO BOX 605
Sunbury, Pennsylvania
570-286-6459
zionsunbury@ptd.net

Rev. Elizabeth George
Pastor
pastor@zlcsunbury.com

Jonathan Moser
Director of Music
music@zlcsunbury.com

Donna Deppen
Operations Manager
zionsunbury@ptd.net

Keith Kurtz
Sexton
zionsunbury@ptd.net

Bryan Wolfe
Media Technology
tech@zlcsunbury.com

PALM SUNDAY

APRIL 13

WORSHIP @ 10AM

Dramatic reading of the passion

MAUNDY THURSDAY

APRIL 17

WORSHIP @ 7PM

GOOD FRIDAY

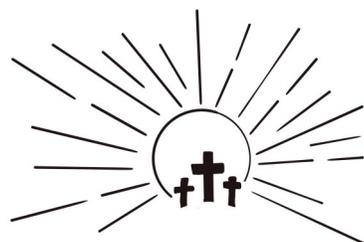
APRIL 18

COMMUNITY SERVICE

12PM-3PM

Tenebrae SERVICE

7PM IN THE CHAPEL



Easter Sunday

APRIL 20 - WORSHIP @ 7AM

FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST @ 8:15 AM

WORSHIP @ 10AM



CALENDAR of Events



Red Cross Bloodmobile at Zion

in memory of Cheryl Beeler

Tuesday, April 8, 2025

Collection hours 1 to 6 p.m.

TO DONATE BLOOD: **1-800-RED CROSS**
or redcrossblood.org

Tuesday, April 1
2:00p Executive Committee

Thursday, April 3
1:00p Property Committee

Monday, April 7
6:00p Worship & Music Meeting

Tuesday, April 8
6:00p Congregation Council

Wednesday, April 9
1:30p Book Club



1st Sunday
of the month -
Celebration of Birthdays!
in the Social Hall
after the service!

BISHOP'S OPEN GOLF CLASSIC
to benefit

CAMP MOUNT LUTHER
May 12, 2025
Susquehanna Valley Country Club

see Dave Reier for information

Thursday, May 1
1:00p Property Committee

Monday, May 5
6:00p Worship & Music Meeting

Tuesday, May 6
2:00p Executive Committee

Tuesday, May 13
6:00p Congregation Council

Wednesday, May 14
1:30p Book Club



Monday, June 2
6:00p
Worship & Music

Tuesday, June 3
2:00p
Exec. Committee

Thursday, June 5
1:00p
Property Committee

Tuesday, June 10
6:00p
Congregation Council

Wednesday, June 11
1:30p
Book Club





APRIL

- 4 JOYCE KEEFER
CALVIN MELLINGER
HAYDEN SCHOLL
- 5 ZAHRA FRITZ
- 7 ANGIE HEIM
- 9 ROWAN HUNT
- 11 LARRY HERROLD, JR.
- 12 KRISTI HEISS
- 14 STEPHANIE BOYER
DILAN CAMPBELL
DOLORES GEISE
- 17 CLARK NEVIN
- 18 BEN HEIM
BRANDON KERSTETTER
PATTY KLICK
APRIL SCHOLL
- 19 JULIE NEVIN
- 21 DREW STEINER
GREG WENRICH
- 26 KIMBERLY BUSSEY
- 29 BRYAN WOLFE
- 30 DEBBIE DAGLE
THOMAS FAUSEY

May

- 2 KAREN HUBICKI
LIAM HUNT
DEBBIE SANDS
RUSSLEE WOLFE
- 3 LYDIA MOORE
- 4 CAROL WESTLEY
BEV YOUNG
- 5 ROBIN KERSTETTER
- 7 MATT KISTNER
- 8 HEATHER DOCK
ROBERT LYTLE, JR.
- 9 LILLIANNE HUMMEL
- 10 KIM CRISSINGER
KRISTIN ROBATEL
- 11 SHARON WALTER
- 12 PATTY JARRETT
JONATHAN MOSER
- 13 DEBBIE SHAMP
- 15 MACKENZIE APPLE
CHRIS WOLFE
- 16 MATTHEW BENHAM
AMBER STONEROAD
- 19 EMILIA HEISS
- 21 DONNA DEPPEN
- 24 ROBERT BARNI
COLE ROBATEL
CINDY SPANG
- 26 COLLEEN RUTHS
- 27 CALEB BURK
JUDY HILBISH
- 31 BILL GREIS

June

- 3 ED REHRAUER
- 6 TOM BOOP
- 8 ALEXANDER DORMAN
- 9 DUNCAN ARCURI
- 10 CHELSEA BOYER
REMINGTON SHANK
- 12 RUTH BERGSTRESSER
- 13 DAVID RAY
- 14 JIM PUTNAM
- 15 DEE ZBORAY
- 16 ROSLYN BIDELESPACH
GENE KEHLER
- 18 PAT KEELEY
- 20 LAUREN MULL
- 22 BRAYDEN LYTLE
CHRIS MINNICH
- 23 ROBBIN STEPANIK
- 24 JALYN BIDELESPACH
AMY HOFFMAN
RICK HOFFMAN
ANN VARIAS
- 25 JAY RUSSELL
- 26 CECILIA BLESSING
EMILEE HUMMEL
- 27 BRENDAN EVERITT
- 28 JEFF EICHNER
- 30 STELLA DOBSON

from the
PASTOR

Hard to believe that I have been your pastor for just about a year (April 15). It continues to be my honor to serve God and this congregation, and I pray that we will grow further in our faith together.

I have always thought of anniversaries as a time to reflect and envision where I would like to be this time next year. This year I am thinking in two directions, one personal and one congregational. For years I have thought about pursuing a Doctor of Ministry degree. This is the year that I am finally jumping back into education. I plan to begin studies in the fall at the United Lutheran Seminary (ULS) with a focus on Church and Society. ULS makes this possible as they do not charge tuition fees. I am grateful for those who have given generously so that pastors have this opportunity. Since I will be able to take many classes online, I do not see this interfering with my work here in Sunbury.

For the congregation: Many of you have told me that Zion has a reputation for being the church for the wealthy. We know that this may have been true, but times have changed and so has the congregation. How do we help our community see that all are welcome regardless of financial status? How do we get the word out about who we are? These are questions that the council will be talking about in the next few months. Please share your ideas!

This year will be an exciting and challenging one for sure! Keep praying for each other and looking for opportunities to be God's hands and feet in our community. Sarah Bessey writes this blessing: We will tell you the truth of our lives and of this world. And we will listen to the truth you speak back to us. The truth of our beloved-ness, of your justice, of your faithfulness,

of love. And say,
Let it be so,
Let it be in me.
Amen.

Pastor Beth

Is there anything more heartbreaking than watching a child try to carry a weight too heavy for their small shoulders?



How do we have conversations with the children in our lives about the really hard topics that adults often avoid?

If you would like to learn more or just need some support, join us

on ~~Sunday, May 4th~~ **SUNDAY June 1st 12:30pm**
(following the birthday celebration).

We will have pizza, childcare- so adults can speak freely, and good discussion about how to talk to kids about grief, loss, and life's big questions with honesty and love.



from the
COUNCIL

The continued need for stabilization of the Bell Tower was the topic of the Congregational Mtg. held 2-16-25. A contract was approved by vote 45-1, at a cost of \$48,246.00. Financial support of this needed work is vital. Please use the Greater Zion **(yellow) envelopes** found in your offering sets and/or **memo your check "BELL TOWER FUND"**. Please give via the plate or mailed to Zion at PO Box 605 Sunbury PA 17801. **Thank you.**



Spring has the book club **leaping forward** with selections

for 2025- reading, crafting toad houses! and of course- discussing books!

April 9th *Kidnapped in Haiti* by Katrina Hoover Lee

May 14th *The Secret Book of Flora Lea* by Patti Callahan Henry

June 11 (possibly... *The Berry Pickers* by Amanda Peters)

July.- *The German Midwife* by Mandy Robotham

August- *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini

September -*The Forest of Vanishing Stars* by Kristen Harmel

HOP BY any meeting!

2nd Weds of the Month ~ 1:30pm in the PAR-



IT'S BACK! Summer Day Camp - *Save the Date!*

July 14-18 9am-3pm *open to children*

who have completed K-6th grade. Friends are also welcome.

Experience outdoor ministries close to home! Staff from Camp

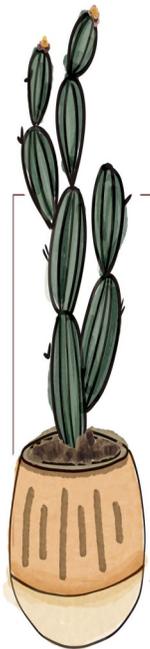
Mount Luther and volunteers from Zion will bring fun, fellowship,

and the love of God through our day camp. Includes free lunch daily, games, sports,

Bible study, singing, crafts, special events and worship.

ADVANCE Registration NECESSARY-Return to the office, Pastor Beth, or mail

Deadline to register is July 1, 2025!



JUST A NOTE...

Dear Zion,

You are family and friends to me. A church that raised me to love God and serve others led me to ordination in 2005. Thank you for the recognition of my 20 years of ^{ministry} as pastor in Upstate New York and Upper Susquehanna Synods. I am thankful and appreciative of your kindness, support and generosity.

In Christ, Pastor Ann Zimmerman



Memorials received/recorded November 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025

given in Memory of Joan Mertz

by Lois Minnich & family
by Ann Zimmerman
by Wm. & Donna Unger
by friends of the Joseph Priestley House
by Mary Weaver
by James & Kim Crissinger
by John & Kim Guiton
by Gary & Janice Young
by James Apple
by Larry & Judy Rohland
by Linda Everitt

given in Memory of Robert Misheck

by James & Kim Crissinger
by Robert & Rebecca Zimmerman

given in Memory of Cheryl Beeler

by Steve & Debbie Dagle
by Linda Everitt

given in Memory of Samuel Deitrick

by James & Kim Crissinger
by William Hoffman
by Steve & Debbie Dagle
by Eric Conrad
by Dale Ann & Brett Neidig
by Linda Everitt

given in memory of Theron W. & Jane Conrad

by Eric Conrad

given in Memory of Hazel Campbell

by Rev. Ann Zimmerman
by Linda Everitt
by co-workers of Karen Campbell Kuebler
by Bob & Becky Zimmerman



In Loving Memory

GOOD FRIDAY NOON-3PM THE CRUXIFIXION OF OUR LORD

Jesus is Condemned to Death – *Mark 15: 1 – 15*

Rev. Ronald Troup, Faith United Methodist, Sunbury

Jesus is Mocked & Accepts the Cross – *John 19: 1-6, 17*

Rev. Megan Millard, Catawissa Ave. UMC, Sunbury

The Cross is Laid on Simon of Cyrene – *Luke 23: 26*

Rev. Elizabeth George, Zion Lutheran Church, Sunbury

Jesus Meets the Women – *Luke 23: 27-31*

Rev. Vickie Brown, Interim Chaplain, Susquehanna University

Jesus is Nailed to the Cross – *Luke 23: 32-38*

Rev. Karla Leiby, St John's Lutheran, Northumberland

Jesus Dies on the Cross – *Mark 15: 33-39*

Rev. Dina Carter-Ishler, St. Matthew's Episcopal, Sunbury

Jesus is Laid in the Tomb – *Matthew 27: 57-61*

Rev. Craig Miller, Bishop, Upper Susquehanna Synod ELCA



HOLY COMMUNION AT 3:05 P.M.