

THE MESSENGER



THE NEWSLETTER OF **ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**, SUNBURY PENNSYLVANIA

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I CAN DO
all things
THROUGH
CHRIST
WHICH
strengtheneth
ME.

PHILIPPIANS 4:13, KJV





Have you ever gotten to church and found the doors were locked? For reasons that the council understands, the decision was made years ago to lock the doors around 10:10. This would prevent access to the stairs and the whole building. Believe me, this pastor understands the intent after being surprised after hours when a homeless person appeared in a dark hallway. However, I have often wondered what kind of message that sends to visitors who may have the incorrect time. Are we putting up barriers to the gospel?

Because of the design of this building, it is next to impossible to secure it without locking doors. All our entrances have access to stairwells, and once a person goes to the lower level, they then have access to the entire building. We have been discussing ways to know who enters the building after worship begins and still limit access to the stairs. We have an idea that we would like to implement, but realize there are questions.

For those who arrive by 10am, this in no way changes the way you normally enter or leave the building. You will still come in through the elevator or portico doors. Those doors will still be locked at 10:10 as they have been. The only difference in our proposal is that one of the main 5th street doors would be unlocked at that time to allow late comers entrance to the nave. The interior doors on the sides of the narthex would be secured to prevent access to the stairs. Late comers would be able to come straight into the nave only.

Is this a perfect solution? No. This will not work when we worship in the chapel. But we are trying to work with a building designed for a very different time. The council is open to hearing your ideas to secure the building and yet be inviting to visitors and late comers. Please talk with one of us so we can understand your ideas and concerns.

We are quickly coming to the Easter celebration where we acknowledge Christ's death and resurrection to bring forgiveness and life to the world. Some reflection on how we may be creating barriers to sharing the gospel message is never wasted time as this is about the mission of the church. May we all have a blessed Holy Week as we journey to the cross and tomb. Then let us rejoice in the promise of the resurrection!

Pastor Beth

Memorial Gifts received/recorded January 1 to March 15, 2026

in Memory of Deborah Dagle to Music Fund

by Barrie Wirth
by Ann Varias
by Zion Chancel Choir
by Ethel & Laverne Eiswerth

in Memory of Roberta "Bobbi" Feger
by Bob & Becky Zimmerman





H O L Y W E E K

PALM SUNDAY MARCH 29

WORSHIP @ 10AM

DRAMATIC READING OF THE PASSION

MAUNDY THURSDAY APRIL 2

WORSHIP @ 7PM

GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 3

COMMUNITY SERVICE

12PM-3PM

Tenebrae

7PM IN THE CHAPEL

THURSDAY, APRIL 2 1:00P PROPERTY COMMITTEE

MONDAY, APRIL 6 6:00P WORSHIP & MUSIC

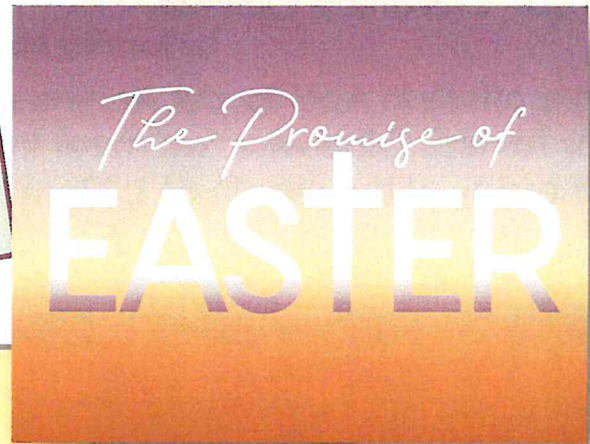
TUESDAY, APRIL 7 2:00P EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8 1:30P BOOK CLUB

TUESDAY, APRIL 14 6:00P CHURCH COUNCIL

Spring EVENTS

**EASTER MORNING
WORSHIP 10AM**



MONDAY, MAY 4 6:00P
WORSHIP & MUSIC

TUESDAY, MAY 5 2:00P
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, MAY 7 1:00P
PROPERTY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, MAY 12 6:00P
CONGREGATION COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13 1:30P
BOOK CLUB



Happy 14th Anniversary

to Zion's Book Club!

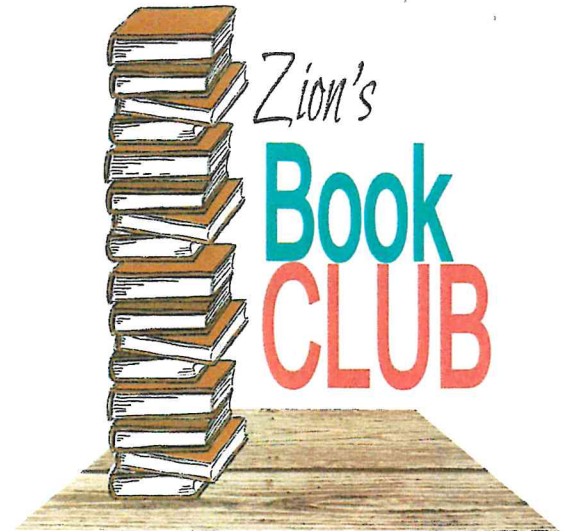
The first book club meeting was held in March of 2012. Our first selection was *The Red Tent* by Anita Diamant. We've probably read more than 160 selections since that first gathering! Our first meeting of 5 readers has grown to 26!

April 8- *The Things We Leave Unfinished*
by Rebecca Yarros

May 13- *Daughters of Shandong*
by Eve J Chung

June 10- *Call of the Camino*
by Suzanne Redfern

We are offsite in April for our Anniversary outing to Penns Tavern! Otherwise, we meet the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 1:30pm in Rm 201B.



Executive Committee:

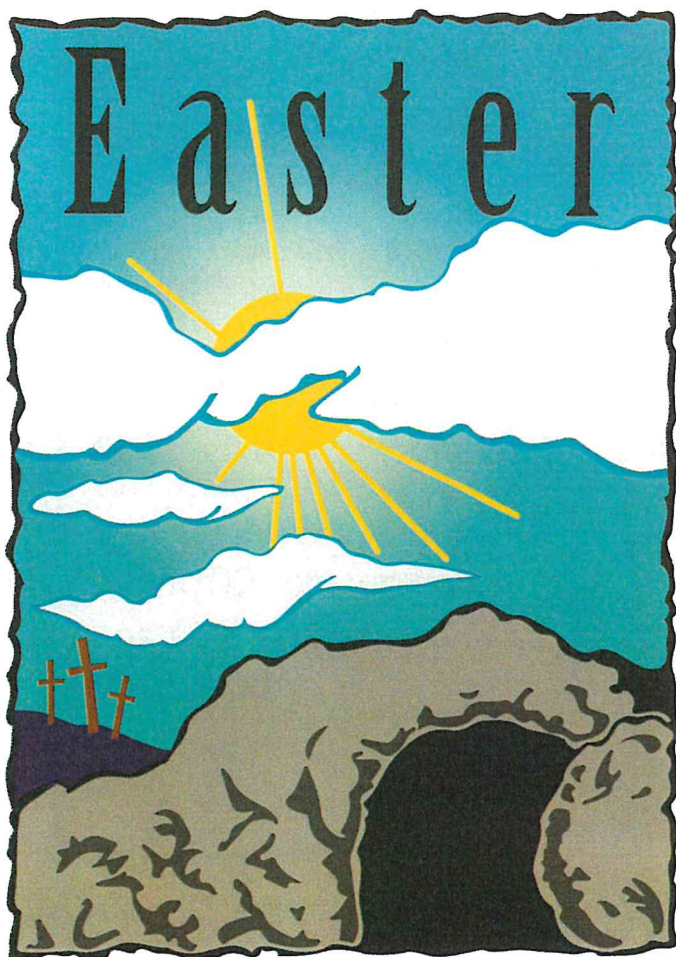
Ken Heim, President

Troy Drasher, Vice Pres.

Julie Nevin, Secretary

Greg Wenrich, Treasurer

Pastor Beth



WE ARE!
EASTER PEOPLE!





APRIL

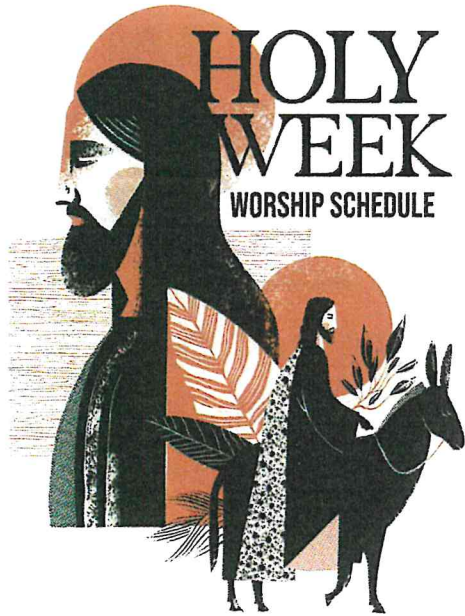
- 4 JOYCE KEEFER
HAYDEN SCHOLL
- 5 ZAHRA FRITZ
- 7 ANGIE HEIM
- 9 ROWAN HUNT
- 12 KRISTI HEISS
- 14 STEPHANIE BOYER
DILAN CAMPBELL
DOLORES GEISE
- 17 CLARK NEVIN
- 18 BEN HEIM
BRANDON KERSTETTER
PATTY KLICK
- 19 JULIE NEVIN
- 21 DREW STEINER
GREG WENRICH
- 23 BRENDA KEMPER
- 26 KIM BUSSEY
- 29 BRYAN WOLFE
- 30 THOMAS FAUSEY

May

- 2 KAREN HUBICKI
LIAM HUNT
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 ROBATEIN
- 11 SHARON WALTER
- 12 PATTY JARRETT
JONATHAN MOSER
- 13 DEBBIE SHAMP
- 15 CHRIS WOLFE
- 16 MATTHEW BENHAM
AMBER STONEROAD
- 19 EMILIA HEISS
- 21 DONNA DEPPEN
- 24 ROBERT BARNI
COLE ROBATEIN
CINDY SPANG
- 26 COLLEEN RUTHS
- 27 CALEB BURK
JUDY HILBISH
- 31 BILL GREIS

June

- 3 ED REHRAUER
- 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 BIDELSPACH
GENE KEHLER
- 18 PAT KEELEY
- 20 LAUREN MULL
- 21 LIBERTY LIVERMON
- 22 BRAYDEN LYTLE
CHRIS MINNICH
- 23 ROBBIN STEPANIK
- 24 JALYN BIDELSPACH
ANN VARIAS
- 25 SHAUGHN LIVERMON
JAY RUSSELL
- 26 CECILIA BLESSING
EMILEE HUMMEL
- 27 BRENDAN EVERITT
- 28 JEFF EICHNER



Palm Sunday	March 29	10am
Maundy Thursday	April 2	7pm
Good Friday	April 3	12-3pm
Good Friday Tenebrae		7pm
Easter Vigil @ St. Matthew's Episcopal		7pm
Easter Festival @ Zion		10am

Red Cross Bloodmobile

at Zion

Tuesday, April 7

Collection hours
1 to 6 p.m.

TO DONATE:
1-800-RED CROSS

or visit redcrossblood.org



SATURDAY
MAY 2-3PM
ZION SUNBURY



BISHOP'S OPEN GOLF TOURNAMENT

MAY 11 2026 11:30A- 6:00P

Golfer registrations and sponsorships are being accepted for **Camp Mount Luther's Bishop's Open Golf Classic**, to be held on May 11, 2026, at the Susquehanna Valley Country Club in Shamokin Dam. Shotgun start time is 12:30 p.m. with registration and lunch at 11:30 a.m. This fundraiser benefits their summer camp for children, youth, and families. Email cml@campmountluther.org or call (570) 922-1587 with questions or see CML Camp-person Dave Reier.

