

# 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](mailto:zionsunbury@ptd.net)

Rev. Elizabeth George  
**Pastor**  
[pastor@zlcsunbury.com](mailto:pastor@zlcsunbury.com)

Jonathan Moser  
**Director of Music**  
[music@zlcsunbury.com](mailto:music@zlcsunbury.com)

Donna Deppen  
**Operations Manager**  
[zionsunbury@ptd.net](mailto:zionsunbury@ptd.net)

Keith Kurtz  
**Sexton**  
[zionsunbury@ptd.net](mailto:zionsunbury@ptd.net)

Bryan Wolfe  
**Media Technology**  
[tech@zlcsunbury.com](mailto:tech@zlcsunbury.com)

## PALM SUNDAY

APRIL 13

WORSHIP @ 10am

*Dramatic reading of the passion*

## MAUNDY THURSDAY

APRIL 17

WORSHIP @ 7PM

## GOOD FRIDAY

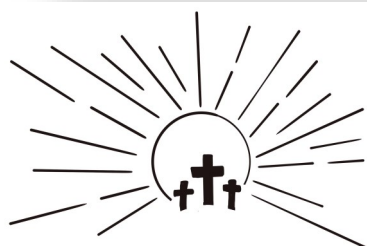
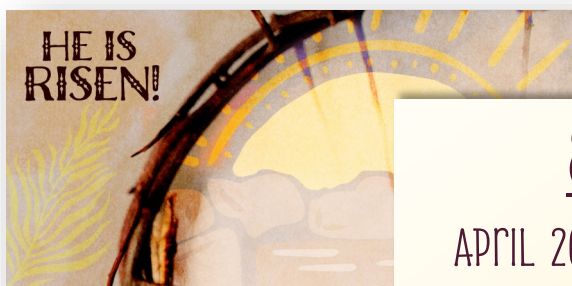
APRIL 18

COMMUNITY SERVICE

12PM-3PM

Tenebrae SERVICE

7PM IN THE CHAPEL



## Easter Sunday

APRIL 20 - WORSHIP @ 7am

FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST @ 8:15 AM

WORSHIP @ 10am



**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](http://redcrossblood.org)



*see Dave Reier for information*



# CALENDAR of Events



**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!*

**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

## COMMITTEE meetings



**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 STONEROD
- 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





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 4<sup>th</sup>~~ **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 how to talk to kids about grief, loss, and life's big questions with honesty and love.



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*

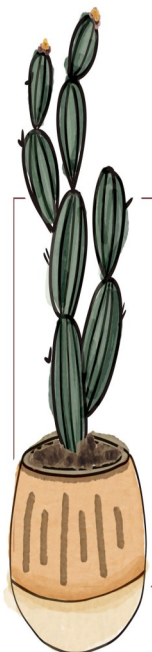
*who have completed K-6th grade. Friends are also welcome.*

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 <sup>ministry</sup> as pastor in Upstate New York and Upper Susquehanna Synod. 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.**