

THE MESSENGER



THE NEWSLETTER OF ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, SUNBURY PENNSYLVANIA

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I was at the seminary in Gettysburg for a week the end of January taking a course titled “Violence and Peacebuilding”. What an appropriate time for such a course. We spent the first two days talking about violence of all forms – war, terror, domestic, verbal, genocide, etc. Quite depressing actually. We have so many words to describe and categorize violence. No one really likes to live in violent times and yet we humans are a violent lot. Spend some time reading the Old Testament and you will encounter battle after battle where thousands are killed. Most of the battles were over land. The Israelites had to defeat those who were living in the promised land before they could move in. They are still fighting over land.

Thankfully, we ended the week talking about peacebuilding. We studied the ways of Ghandi, Fethullah Gulen, and Leymah Gbowee. Each one of these people understood the value of confronting violence in a non-violent way. Ghandi and Gbowee both led protests where they taught people non-violence and expected that those in power would violently react. Ghandi spent time in jail. Gbowee brought Christian and Muslim women together to confront Liberia's president and rebel warlords. Gulen built schools and hospitals to combat ignorance and poor health. He knew that an educated population could rise against authoritarianism.

What did Ghandi, Gbowee, and Gulen have in common? They had a deep faith in God and a desire to see everyone living peacefully together. They brought people of different faith traditions together with a common purpose. That purpose inspired them and faith in God compelled them into action.

I left Gettysburg feeling hope. Hope that when humanity works together, we can squash wars, oppression, and dictators. It gave me hope that we in the United States could set aside the name calling, blaming, and partisanship to see each other as brother and sisters – especially those whose skin is a different shade. It gave me hope that violence does not get the last word.

As we begin the season of Lent, I challenge all of us to examine our violent ways – our thoughts, words, and actions. Repent of them and begin to learn new ways.

Repent and learn God's love.

Pastor Beth



of Adult Baptism. David Ray and Shaughn Livermon affirmed their faith, while Rev. Joel & Ruth Zeiders and Brooke Leitzel transferred membership to Zion. We welcome them to our family of faith with open arms & hearts!

New members were welcomed to Zion in 2025! We welcomed Santana Bardole, Liberty Livermon and Keefer Goodspeed through the sacrament

Monday, February 2

6:00p Worship & Music Meeting

Tuesday, February 3

2:00p Executive Committee

Thursday, February 5

1:00p Property Committee Meeting

Tuesday, February 10

6:00p Congregation Council

Wednesday, February 11

1:30p Book Club

Monday, February 16

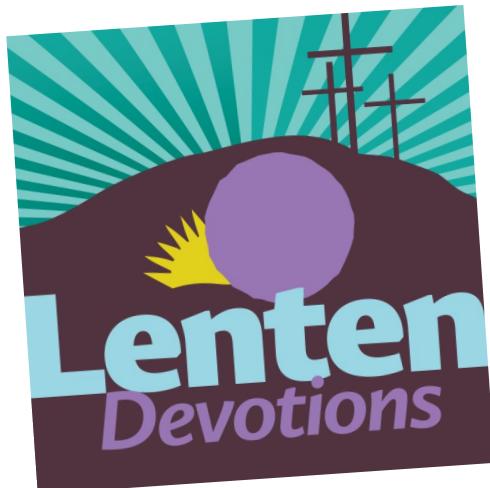
Presidents' Day:

Office/Building CLOSED



Ash Wednesday

February 18th
Worship
7:00pm
Nave



WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

Bible Study at 5:30pm~ Room 203

Lenten Worship Service

in the Chapel 6:30pm



Monday, March 2

6:00p Worship & Music Meeting

Tuesday, March 3

2:00p Executive Committee

Thursday, March 5

1:00p Property Committee

Tuesday, March 10

6:00p Congregation Council

Wednesday, March 11

1:30p Book

SVC Spring Concert
Sunday, March 22~ 3pm
for tickets- svcmusic.org

It's back!!!

WEDNESDAY MORNINGS

Lenten Devotions ~ 7AM~ Chapel

Breakfast~7:30AM~Social Hall

**February 25th,
March 4, 11, 18, 25**

**40 days
OF Lent**

from the Annual Meeting - Cindy Dailey, Jonathan Moser and Bryan Wolfe were elected to Council at Zion's Annual Meeting held January 18th. Lydia Moore was re-elected as Youth member.

Serving as the Executive Committee:

President- Ken Heim

Vice President- Troy Drasher

Secretary- Julie Nevin

Treasurer- Greg Wenrich

Continuing in their terms on Council: Lisa Mertz, and Ann Varias

Copies of 2025 Annual Report available in the Nave Welcome Area.



In Loving Memory

Memorial Gifts received by Zion from September 1 to December 31, 2025

in Memory of Cathy Zimmerman by Antonia Varias

in Memory of Debbie Sands
by Bob & Becky Zimmerman
by Bill & Lystra Beck
by George & Sandra Putnam
by Ann Zimmerman
by Mary Weaver
by Larry & Helen Beck
by Barbara Boyer

given in Memory of Joyce Rebuck
by the Rebuck family
by the Fladmark sisters-
Kris Bogar, Martha Roth & Amy Waldkoenig



in Memory of Deborah Dagle to Music Fund

by James & Kim Crissinger
by Ann Zimmerman
by Bob & Becky Zimmerman
by Bill & Lystra Beck
by Bob & Carol Laudenslager
by JoEllen Freida
by Linda Everitt
by Dolores Geise
by Kathy Tarasewicz
by John D. Apple
by Barbara Boyer
by Barry & Joyce Keefer
by Micheal & Jan Zerbe
by the "Thursday Breakfast" group
by Flora Eyster Newburgh
by Elizabeth Labant
by Connie, Travis, & Stacie Firing
by "her Book Club"
by Susquehanna Valley Investment Group
by Sarah & Bob Hynick
by Danny & Jane Ramer
by Thomas & Anne Gates
by James D. Apple
by Doug Bailey & Dick Williams
by Jonathan Dagle
by Richard & Eileen Fangmann
by Thomas & Anne Gates
by James D. Apple
by Doug Bailey & Dick Williams
by Sarah & Bob Hynick
by Danny & Jane Ramer
by Jonathan Dagle
by Peggy Lou Peters
by Lester & Julie Ranck
by Stephen Dagle
by Susquehanna Valley Traders Investment Club



FEBRUARY

- 1 Linda Hutchinson
- 3 Georgena Smith
- 4 Susan Phillips
Kathy Tarasewicz
- 7 Cindy Dailey
- 9 Evy Moore
- 11 Lisa Nava
- 13 Jacki Kremser
- 14 Michael Dock
Valery Eichner
- 15 Jazlyn Gunn
Doris Kehler
- 16 Sherry Cragle
- 18 Nada Lundquist
Emma McAllister
- 19 Harriet Shaffer
- 21 Toni Kalcich
- 22 Braydon Dock
- 23 Steve Dagle
Jodi Scholvin
- 25 Zoey Pincoskie
- 27 Doris Farber
Jo Ellen Frieda
- 28 David Reier

MARCH

- 1 Siri Dock
- 2 Amber Pincoskie
- 3 Harry Roberts, Jr.
- 5 Jack Mellinger
Lisa Mertz
- 6 Lester Ranck
- 7 Steven Lundquist
- 9 Russ Broscious, Jr.
Jada Gunn
- 11 Brooke Leitzel
- 12 Walter Conrad
- 13 Madalyn Benton
Emily Hunt
Melissa Rinehimer
- 14 Travis Dorman
- 17 Lois Minnich
- 19 Ellen Mull
- 20 Kerry Lenker
HayLee Nava
- 21 Charity Wertz
- 23 Jared Pincoskie
- 26 Clyde Daubert
Bill Ruch
Debra Taylor
- 27 Charmaine Siegfried
- 30 Kathy Pyers
Dennis Shaffer

APRIL

- 4 Joyce Keefer
Hayden Scholl
- 5 Zahra Fritz
- 7 Angie Heim
- 9 Rowan Hunt
- 12 Kristi Weiss
- 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

1st Sunday

of the month -

Celebration of Member Birthdays!



Cake and Coffee
in the Social Hall



2nd Wednesday of the Month~
1:30pm in Room 201B
Read along with us in 2026!!!

February 11- Devil in the White City by Erik Larson

March 11- Magic Hour by Kristen Hannah

April 8- The Things We Leave Unfinished by Rebecca

May 13- Daughters of Shandong by Eve J Chung



ORDER a LILY in memory of...
or in honor of loved ones.

Find your **purple envelope** with your offering envelopes
Envelopes also in the Nave Welcome Area.

Order **SOON!** **Deadline March 13, 2026**

Donations any amount.



Address Service Requested

www.zionlutheranrusnbury.com





2nd Wednesday of the Month~
1:30pm in Room 201B
Read along with us in 2026!!!

February 11- Devil in the White City by Erik Larson

March 11- Magic Hour by Kristen Hannah

April 8- The Things We Leave Unfinished by Rebecca Yarros

May 13- Daughters of Shandong by Eve J Chung



ORDER an Easter LILY

in memory of loved ones.

Find your

purple envelope

In with your offering set.

Envelopes also in the Nave

Welcome Area. **ORDER SOON!**

Deadline March 13th

Donations of any amount.



Jesus said "Feed My Sheep" John 21:17

Thank you to our church family who responded to His call. Worshippers were invited to pick up a Giving Calendar and fill a grocery bag with items on the calendar for 21 days in either December or January.

We have collected more than 500 lbs. of food to share with those who have food insecurity in our communities.

Our plans include: Keeping food at Zion for those in urgent need, Sharing food with others at the Takery in February, and sharing our bounty with our brothers and sisters in Christ that have food pantries at their churches including: Otterbein United Methodist, Catawissa Avenue United Methodist, St. Matthew's Episcopal, St. Matthew Lutheran, and St. Monica Catholic Church.



With Sincere Appreciation,
Kim Crissinger, project co-ordinator

