

# 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*



**New members were welcomed to Zion in 2025!** We welcomed

Santana Bardole, Liberty Livermon and Keefer Goodspeed through the sacrament 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!

**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**



**AshWednesday**

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](http://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 EVELYN MOORE
- 11 LISA NAVA
- 13 JACKI KREMSEK
- 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 ZOEE 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 BENHAM  
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 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

### 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.

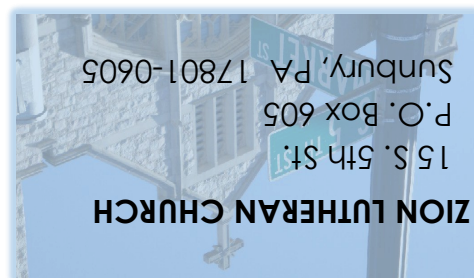
Order **SOON!** **Deadline March 13, 2026**

*Donations any amount.*



Address Service Requested

www.zionlutheransunbury.com





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1:30pm in Room 201B

*Read along with us in 2026!!!*

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



### Jesus said "Feed My Sheep" John 21:17

Thank you to our church family who responded to His call. Worshipers 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, Catatwissa Avenue United Methodist, St. Matthew's Episcopal, St. Matthew Lutheran, and St. Monica Catholic Church.



With Sincere Appreciation,  
Kim Crissinger, project co-ordinator

**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.*

