Mount Zion Glad Tidings

August 2023





Harvest Home Sunday, August 27



Looking Ahead to September



Rally Day
Sunday School 9 AM &
Return to 10:15 AM
Worship Time
Sunday, September 17



Mt. Zion Lutheran Church

1343 Long Lane Road Kutztown, PA 19530

Church Secretary Office Hours
Monday, Wednesday, & Friday
9:00 AM—1:00 PM
Church Office Telephone Number 610-756-6210

VicarVicar Jeremiah T. Heydt
Cell phone 972-839-9363
Email jtheydt@gmail.com

Newsletter e-mail: nighthawk2@dejazzd.com **and** mtzion6210@verizon.net

Please submit items by the 15th of the month.

http://www.mtzionkutztown.org/

From The Vicar:

"If we do not live the Gospel, Jesus does not live in us"
- Charles Foucauld (1858-1916)

Living as a Christian means more than just attending church on Sundays or saying prayers before meals. It means embodying the very essence of Christ in our daily lives. It means exhibiting the many facets of God's grace in our hearts, all of them the outgrowth of Christian love and ALL OF THEM polished and brightened by practice. Here are some of the Christian graces we SHOULD EXHIBIT in our lives.

First, sympathy. There are so many around us suffering from various troubles. Having experienced the comfort of the Holy Spirit, we should know how to sympathize with others. We should take the time to listen to their stories and offer words of comfort and encouragement. Secondly, compassion. This goes beyond sympathy, as it involves a depth of understanding. We should communicate that understanding and let them know they are not alone. Thirdly, courtesy. Courtesy is the art and grace of treating others as we would want to be treated. Courtesy involves the soft answer that can turn away wrath. We should be known for our courtesy even in the most difficult situations. Fourthly, patience. Impatience can cause us to harm our relationships with others. We should strive to be patient with those who seem slow, inarticulate, or inept. Our Lord is infinitely patient with us, and we should try to model that same patience with others. Fifthly, tact. Telling the truth is important, but it can be done in love, taking into consideration the feelings of others. Tact is that grace which enables us to sense the feelings of others and to act toward them in a way that preserves human dignity. We should always strive to communicate the truth in love and with tact. Sixthly, forgiveness, Without a spirit of forgiveness, human relations cannot be maintained at a Christian level. We live in the light of God's forgiveness, and it's an attitude that God requires of us. This involves taking off the robe of self-righteousness and being clothed with humility. Always strive to forgive just as God has forgiven us. Lastly, practicality. We often are sound in theory but fail at the point of implementation. Practicality involves helping people in the place where they need help. It's not just a kind word, but also a kind act where that act can do the most good. Strive do be doers of the word, not just hearers.

These FACETS of God's graces in our hearts are the outward expression of an Inner Presence and attitude of putting into practice those things we know are good and right. We should strive to live each day in a way that honors God and shows that Jesus lives in us. AMEN.

A Message From Our Council President

How is summer almost over already? Folk Festival has come and gone. This month we look forward to the Kutztown Fair, kids starting extracurricular activities at school and more importantly, school!

As I look back to this time last year, I was writing about how we were 2 years post flood. Fire cleanup was almost done, and we were hoping to get back into our own Sanctuary. How far we have come in a year! Our sanctuary is spiffed up and looking new again. Our basement is fabulous and has hosted a handful of events. We are hoping to have our organ back sometime this month. Other than some random items that we could spend years realizing we are missing and replacing, we are almost complete with all of our misfortunes. I'd like to give a great big thank you to everyone who donated time, money and resources to get us back to where we are today. It was not a small undertaking, but we did it. Together! Many hands make light work. We are proof of that.

It's also time to start thinking about our Annual Congregational meeting to be held in October. Look for more information on this in the September newsletter. At the meeting, we will be discussing two of our largest events that we have not been able to host since the flood and fire. We need to discuss the future of holding our Summer Fest celebration and Vacation Bible School. Both events take many volunteers, but both serve great causes. Can we count on you to help next year?

Now is the time to start thinking about how you can be of service to the church. When is the last time you volunteered? We have various committees that always need help. Are you interested in serving on the Council? Do you have skills to help out the Property Committee? Can you help out with Christian Education? Can you help the Fundraising Committee sell sandwiches? There are plenty of options to serve. Not sure where your talents can best be put to use? No worries. Try out each committee until you find the one that's right for you.

Yours in faith, Missy Keller Council President

Local Shared Outreach Update

Our June collection items were Condiments and Suddenly Salad mixes:

Suddenly Salad - 22 Mustard 22 Ketchup - 17

Mayonnaise - 3 Salad Dressing - 2 Olives - 2

BBQ Sauce - 1 Relish - 1 Pickles - 1

71 Focus items

Additionally, **11** miscellaneous items were donated for a monthly total of **82** items.

Our focus items for the month of August are:



Mac & Cheese and Dry Pastas

(For example: Spaghetti, Penne, Elbow Macaroni, Ziti, Rigatoni, Spiral, Shells, Egg Noodles, Bow Ties, etc.)



Jingle Project

The total Jingle Project monies collected for **Berks Encore's Meals on Wheels** program during the April/May/June quarter is **\$591.00**. THANK YOU for your generosity!!! The senior citizens of Berks County will certainly benefit from the prepared meals delivered to their door!

We continue with Helping Harvest's Weekender Program for the July/August/September quarter recipient. This program provides preschool and elementary school students with a bag of food to be consumed when they are not in the classroom. Helping Harvest is distributing about 5,000 bags a week in partnership with 100 schools and day care centers. This is a very expensive program, with each bag costing \$12-\$14.

The organization's leaders believe it is a top priority to feed children during their critical brain development years, understanding that if the nutritional needs of children aren't met when they're young, they will likely carry deficits with them for the rest of their lives. – Per Jack Worrall, President of Helping Harvest and taken from the Reading Eagle article published on March 1, 2023.



Fundraising Committee



Kempton Fair

We received the check from the Kempton Fair Organization. Our Pizza and Soft Pretzel stand had a total in sales over the 3 days of \$3318.65. Mt. Zion received a check for \$663.73 which represents our commission of 20% of the total sales. Thanks again to all who stepped up to help man the stand over the three days of the fair. These monies will be used toward the cost of the 9 new tables that were purchased for the Fellowship Area downstairs. As you know, we now have a larger area of event space and we needed more tables.

We have a name to add to the list of fair stand helpers in last month's newsletter. **Karen Wanamaker** stepped in to fill a spot in the schedule that opened up just before the fair was to begin. Thank you Karen!!!



Sausage Sandwich Sale

Thank to you everyone who supported our July Sausage Sandwich sale.



It was another successful sale with **100** sausage sandwiches sold for a net income of \$808.54 plus one cookbook sold at \$12 for a total profit for Mt. Zion of **\$820.54**! These monies will be used toward the cost of tables and chairs for the Sunday School room.

Our committee appreciates your support of our fundraising efforts for Mt. Zion. Watch for more opportunities in the coming months!

Mt. Zion's Christmas Bazaar Returns!!!



Saturday, November 18, 2023 9 AM to 2 PM

We are seeking vendors for the bazaar.



Space Fee: \$10.00 – includes 1 table. Additional table can be rented - \$10.00.

Contact Martin Billger at 484-507-3835 to make your space reservation.

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Fundraising Committee Continued

Redner's Save a Tape Program

Bring your register receipts from any Redner's Grocery Store. You will need to have a Redner's Loyalty shopping card for the receipt to qualify. We will receive a 1% cash back for the total of your receipt. Put your receipts in the container on

the table below the bulletin board. We ask that you please place **ONLY** Redner's receipts in the container and that you do so in a timely manner, or Redner's may not accept them.

Thank you!!!

KIDSPEACE Needs Your Help!

Dear Community Provider,

While KidsPeace has provided foster care services in Berks County for over 20 years, we just recently partnered with the county to better serve this specialized, under supported, population of children. Berks County Children & Youth expressed an ever-increasing need for foster parents to have specialized training about Autism, with access to additional and comprehensive autism treatment services. Many of these youth are with families who know little about Autism and the special care this diagnosis often requires. As of 2/1/2023, 6% of the 258 Berks County youth in out of home placements are reported to have a diagnosis including Autism; more than half of those youth are residing in nonrelative foster homes. By specializing our foster care programming in partnership with the KidsPeace Autism support services, we've created an innovative system of care for the youth in Berks County that will reduce the likelihood of placement disruption and further trauma to those youth!

The Autism Focused Foster Care Program is just beginning to locate individuals and couples who meet eligibility requirements for foster parenting, and who are also able to support children with autism diagnoses or characteristics of autism if undiagnosed. Anyone who is interested will be considered, especially those who have had personal experience with someone on the spectrum, who might wish to use that knowledge and experience in helping others.

> With Sincere Thanks. Heather Einsig, BA

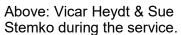
This letter in its entirety and the pamphlet accompanying it are posted on the bulletin board in the corner in the rear of the sanctuary. Please refer to it if you are interested in helping with this foster care program.

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Worship & Music Committee News

As promised in last month's newsletter, here are some photo's from our Outdoor Service held on June 18, 2023.





Left: Grill man Martin Billger.

Below: Minister of Music

Sylvia Keller and the Choir singing the Anthem.







Worship & Music Committee News Continued <u>Vets Food Drive A Wonderful Success!</u>



Photo front row Left to Right: Worship & Music Committee members Helen Wessner, Sharon Billger, Marcia Green (Chair), Liz & Doug Graybill.

Back row: Jeff Wetzel and Vicar Jeremiah Heydt.

Thank you to everyone who donated to our Food Drive for our Veterans. Liz and Doug Graybill of Veterans Making A Difference visited Mt. Zion on Sunday, June 25, and gave a brief Temple Talk about their Paul R. Gordon Veterans Social Center and the work they do to help area veterans. They shared how much these donated items for their monthly food pantry distribution would mean to the veterans they serve.

Thank you to those who stayed to help pack the items and load them into the Graybill's van.

A special thank you to Thrivent member Jeff Wetzel for once again submitting an Action Team request. He and Cindy then used the \$250 VISA money card to shop for items to add to what we collected. Great job Jeff and Cindy!

Worship & Music Committee News Continued Harvest Home

Harvest Home will be held on *Sunday, August 27*. Please bring any items to add to the display in the front of the sanctuary.

While the August focus items for Friend, Inc. are Mac & Cheese and Dry Pastas, any **food, paper products, or hygiene items** are welcome.





In addition, any **fresh produce from your garden** is also welcome. All donated items will go to Friend for their food pantry.

Thank you for sharing the bounty the Lord has provided!

Celebrate the Festival of Harvest with the first fruits of the crops you sow in your field. Celebrate the Festival of Ingathering at the end of the year, when you gather in your crops from the field.

- Exodus 23:16

Community Event - Concert Series!

In the Historic Covered Kutztown Park Bandshell Free to the public and held rain or shine.

Thurs 8/3 7 - 9 PM - Kutztown School District Summer Band

Sun 8/6 Noon - 2 PM - The Zeptones

Kutztown 6 - 8 PM - Flamin' Dick & The Hot Rods

Day

Sat 8/12 7 - 9 PM - The Dave Mell Band

Sun 8/13 4 - 6 PM - Kutztown Pipe Band & Kutztown Celtic Session

Sat 8/19 7 - 9 PM - The Ringgold Band



The park concession stand, run by Saucony Café, will be open during the concerts.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 6:30 PM Worship & Music Committee	2	3	4	5
6 9:15 AM Worship & Holy Communion	7 5:30 PM Cemetery Board Meeting in Conference Room	8	9	10 7 PM Church Council	11	12
9:15 AM Worship & Holy Communion	14	15	16	17	18	19
9:15 AM Worship & Holy Communion	21 6:30 PM Property Committee 7 PM Fundraising	22	23	24	25	26
9:15 AM Worship & Holy Communion Harvest Home	28	29	30	31		

Grief Support Services

Mt. Zion received a mailing from St. Luke's Hospice Bereavement Program which includes a reference list of free services in our area. This is a partial list, see the sheet posted on the corner bulletin board in the rear of the sanctuary for the full listing.

- St. Luke's Hospice Bereavement Team 484-526-2499
- The Compassionate Friends for loss of a child, grandchild or sibling, www.thecompasionatefriends.org
- · Grief Share faith-based support group www.griefshare.org
- Lehigh Valley Health Network 610-402-7481

Their newsletter included the following poem:

When I Go

When I go, don't learn to live without me, just learn to live with my love, in a different way.

And if you need to see me, close your eyes, or look in your shadow, when the sun shines.

I'm there.

I will be there.

Sit with me in the quiet and you will know, that I did not leave.

There is no leaving when a soul is blended with another.

When I go, don't learn to live without me, just learn to look for me in the moments.

By Donna Ashworth From "LOSS"

August 2023

PRAYER REMEMBERANCE



Please remember the following persons in your weekly prayers.

A card or a note of cheer would be greatly appreciated.

Jennifer Biglin, Doris Boehm, Sharon Billger,
Leroy Bleiler, Barbara Geisler, Linda Grim,
Tyler Grim, Christine High, Kenny Dietrich,
Wayne Iman, Emma Laigale, Susan Landers,
David Lewis, Sharon Miller, Della Noll,
Greg Renninger, Keith Rohrbach, Randy Schlegel,
Nancy Sanner, Holden Miller-Schaffer, Dolly Selleck,
Bonnie Solt, Sara Vanderklute, Debbie Way,
Judy Weisner, Jessica Wessner, Tim Wessner

Help to keep this list current by reviewing it and updating us with their status and progress.

We will remove names appearing for 4 weeks or more unless otherwise advised.

Thinking of you!

Please remember our homebound members with a card to let them know you are thinking of them.

THIS MONTH'S FEATURED MT. ZION VISITATIONS

Paul Miller Myrtle Weisner

Microtel Berks Heim Rm B2-232-2

50 Industrial Way 1011 Berks Road

Hamburg, PA 19526 Leesport, PA 19533

Recipe of the Month

This month's featured recipe was submitted by Helen Wessner.

She notes that this is a good recipe to use some of that eggplant fresh from your garden!

Editor's Note: Martin and I were lucky to enjoy this recipe when Helen shared this dish with us. We say if you like eggplant try it, you will love it!

Eggplant Lasagna Casserole 8"x11" greased pan

1 Large! Eggplant - need 18 slices cut 1/4" thick

9 Lasagna Noodles cooked according to directions

2 - 24 oz. Jars Spaghetti Sauce (Helen uses Prego)

12 Slices Provolone Cheese Grated Parmesan Romano Cheese



Directions:

Peel eggplant and cut 1/4" thick slices and layer on a dinner plate with a sprinkle of salt on each layer. Put saucer on top and something to press it down and leave set on counter for 1 hour.

Drain off dark juice and it's ready to fry up.

Need beaten egg in one bowl and cracker crumbs in another.

Dip slices in egg and then in cracker crumbs.

Fry in small amount of oil, drain on paper towels.

Put a layer of sauce in greased pan, then 3 noodles, sauce, then eggplant, more sauce, and a sprinkle of grated cheese. Repeat this 2 more times. Cover last layer with sauce and grated cheese. Cover and bake at 350° for 1 hour then uncover and layer Provolone Cheese on top and bake until cheese is melted.

Serve with salad and garlic bread.

P. S. Don't forget the wine!

Do you have a favorite recipe to share with your church family?

Email it to me at nighthawk2@dejazzd.com

or make a copy and give it to me at church - Editor

August Service Calendar

2023 DATE	SUNDAY	ORDER OF WORSHIP	WOR- SHIP ASSIST	HOLY COM- MUNI ON	COMMENTS
6– Aug	9:15 am 10 Pentecost	ELW	Marcia	Yes	Malotte's Lord's Prayer
13– Aug	9:15 am 11 Pentecost	ELW	Sue	Yes	
20– Aug	9:15 am 12 Pentecost	ELW	Greg	Yes	
27– Aug	9:15 am 13 Pentecost	ELW	Jeff	Yes	Harvest Home

Brief Financial Update

<u>Basement Renovation Debt:</u> To all of our faithful and generous congregation members, I want to personally say a big 'THANK YOU'!! Your generosity, along with our initial money management has enabled us to pay off the loan for the basement renovation. Yes, the 10-year debt that you agreed to last October has been PAID IN FULL! 'God works in mysterious ways' is so much more than just a saying. He has given us proof of His love and greater plan time and again. We are so blessed!!

Fire Insurance Work and Claim: As of now, the remaining large open item from the soot/smoke damage is the return of the organ. Our recent communication with Emery Brothers revealed a slight delay until August. We have all the funds for the completion of the project in hand and are awaiting their notification of project steps as they are completed. In addition, we have received the balance of the personal property reserve from Church Mutual Insurance Company to close our claim with them. After paying Emery we will hold about \$92,000 for missing items as they arise. The Finance Committee will meet to review the current year and prepare next year's budget proposal soon. Further information will be passed along during the annual Congregation Meeting schedule for October 2023.

April Osterstock, Treasurer



Mt. Zion Family,

Thank you all so much for your prayers.
This has been a stressful time for David and I.
Thank you again,
Joann & Dave Lewis

To My Mt. Zion Church Family,

Thank you for the cards, phone calls, text and Facebook messages after my fall. Thank you to my friend Janice Clemmer who was with me and stayed in the ER until Martin arrived. I have some testing and follow-up to do in the coming weeks but I'm on the mend.

God bless you,
Sharon C. Billger

We received the following letter after delivering stuffed animals that our Social Ministry Committee's Sewing Group made.

Social Ministry/Outreach Mt. Zion Lutheran Church

Dear Friends.

I am writing to thank you for your generous gift of hand sewn stuffed animals to Safe Berks. With your help, we continue our mission of serving survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault in Berks County.

We hear many tragic stories of abuse. But we also hear stories of hope. Every survivor who makes their first phone call or visit to Safe Berks has already developed great resilience. Here they find a safe haven and compassionate assistance from expert staff who truly care.

Through trauma-informed counseling, our clients begin to heal. They begin the journey of rebuilding their lives, for themselves and their children, empowered and free from abuse.

In addition to our crisis services, Safe Berks staff provide education and awareness to the community at schools, colleges, churches, sports events, concerts, and other community gatherings. We also provide on-site response to survivors and educational programing at hospitals and other non-profit organizations. As we engage youth and adults in preventive education on domestic violence and sexual assault, we work toward our goal of building a truly Safe Berks.

Please know we are extremely grateful for your support. While we face many challenges, your generosity strengthens us to continue our mission.

Sincerely, Mindy McIntosh Director of Development



1-Aug	Rachael	Dietrich	18-Aug	Maggie	Fritzinger
2-Aug	Craig	Kline	21-Aug	Dean	Scott
3-Aug	Christine	Sushko	22-Aug	Allen	Button
5-Aug	Sarah	Riegel	22-Aug	Valerie	Rutherford
8-Aug	Denise	Sanner	23-Aug	Alyssa	Button
8-Aug	Joseph	Kohler	23-Aug	Darrin	Scott
10-Aug	Darlene	Arndt	24-Aug	Michele	Morstatt
10-Aug	Christian	Sushko	24-Aug	Kayla	Schappell
11-Aug	Martin	Billger	25-Aug	Nancy	Sanner
12-Aug	Sadie	Stemko	26-Aug	Beverly	Gennetti
13-Aug	Mace	Arndt	28-Aug	Linda	Pfeifly
13-Aug	Richard	Mengel	28-Aug	Michele	O'Donnell
14-Aug	Justin	Klinger	28-Aug	Shawn	Losito
14-Aug	Logan	O'Donnell	29-Aug	Erika	Dietrich
16-Aug	Daniel	Brocious	30-Aug	Mary Kate	Mullin
17-Aug	Jennifer	O'Neil	31-Aug	Gracie	Stemko
18-Aug	Corey	Haverstock	31-Aug	Lucas	Miller



Note: Individuals celebrating Birthdays and Anniversaries are remembered in the intercessory prayers of the congregation at Sunday Worship prior to the date of their birthday or anniversary.

08/03/1973	Debra & Ed Jones

08/051978 Elaine & Paul Zeigler

08/06/2005 Kellene & John Knutsen

08/10/2010 Ashley & Bobby Follweiler

08/21/1976 Bonnie & Dean Scott

08/23/1980 Fay & Ed Podlesny

08/23/2014 Christina & Christine Sushko

08/25/2001 Marcia & William Green

08/31/2002 Michele & Larry J. O'Donnell



Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt.

- Matthew 15:28

These are Jesus' words to the Canaanite Woman who came to seek his help in a cure for her daughter. This Bible verse begins a small book that Shirley Burkhart has submitted with information on various women of the Bible.

I am starting a new item in the newsletter: **Women of the Bible**.

I will be including tidbits on these women in the newsletter as space permits.

This month features the first Woman of the Bible

Abigail



Abigail's ability to speak with respect and self-confidence saved her household from the dire consequences of her husband's churlish behavior.

You can read how Abigail's quick actions saved the day in 1 Samuel, chapter 25.

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- Editor

August Worship Service Support

Aug 6	9:15 AM
Acolyte	TBD
Greeters	Lillian Moyer, Helen Wessner
Lector	Lisa Christman
Ushers	Lillian Moyer, Janice Clemmer, Volunteers
Comm. Asst.	Lisa Christman, Martin Billger
Flowers	
Bulletins	Kellene & John Knutsen in Celebration of their Wedding Anniversary today.
<u>Aug 13</u>	9:15 AM
Acolyte	TBD
Greeters	Karen & Anna Wanamaker
Lector	Debra Fink
Ushers	Daniel Batz, Karen & Anna Wanamaker, Jean Gaston
Comm. Asst.	Debra Fink, Melissa Keller
Flowers	Lillian Moyer In Memory of her Wedding Anniversary on the 17th.
Bulletins	Lillian Moyer In Memory of her Wedding Anniversary on the 17th.
<u>Aug 20</u>	9:15 AM
Acolyte	TBD
Greeters	Debra & Joseph Kohler
Lector	Lorrie Arndt
Ushers	Debra & Joseph Kohler, Volunteers
Comm. Asst.	Lorrie & Joe Arndt
Flowers	Joann & David Lewis In Loving Memory of Daughters Lori, Wendy, Janie Suzette, Rebecca Ann & David's Brother Bertrum.
Bulletins	Michelle Button in honor of Allen & Alyssa's Birthdays.
Aug 27	9:15 AM
Acolyte	TBD
Greeters	Cynthia & Jeffrey Wetzel

August Worship Service Support Continued

Aug 27	9:15 AM
Lector	Karen Wanamaker
Ushers	Cynthia & Jeffrey Wetzel, Volunteers
Comm. Asst.	Karen & Anna Wanamaker
Flowers	
Bulletins	April Osterstock in Celebration of her granddaughter Sophia's 15th Birthday.

We are in need of Flower sponsors on August 6 and 27. Please consider commemorating a special event or memory of a loved one with a donation of flowers. Thank you!

Upcoming August Event!



Harvest Home

Sunday, August 27 See page 10 for details.



Looking Ahead to September

Mark Your Calendar!!!

Rally Day and the start of Sunday School and return to regular worship time

Sunday, September 17

Sunday School for all ages at 9 AM Worship with Holy Communion at 10:15 AM



Kempton Fair Pizza & Soft Pretzel Stand Photos



Part of Thursday night's crew, Left to Right: Patty O'Neill, Vicar Jeremiah Heydt, Martin Billger, Leigh Duddy. Photo Credit: April Osterstock who was also on the crew.



Part of Friday night's crew, Left to Right: Sharon & Martin Billger, Vicar Jeremiah Heydt, Bill & Marcia Green.

Photo Credit: Marcia Green (her phone) & Linda Bittner (The Billgers' friend who stopped by and took the photo for us!)

Mt. Zion Lutheran Church Purpose Statement

God's purpose for our congregation is to commit ourselves to learn and to spread God's Word and to serve others.

Guiding Principles

Jesus is Lord and Savior

Seek to be in relationship with God

Ensure that everyone is welcome

Encourage generosity toward others

Live the faith

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