

Mount Zion Glad Tidings March 2024



Mt. Zion Lutheran Church

1343 Long Lane Road
Kutztown, PA 19530

Church Office Hours
Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays
9:00 AM—1:00 PM

Church Office Telephone Number **610-756-6210**

Pastoral Care ProviderVicar Jeremiah T. Heydt
Cell phone 972-839-9363
Email jtheydt@gmail.com

Church Secretary.....Suzy Donchez
Church Council President.....Karen Wanamaker
Church Council Vice President... Michelle Fegely
Church Council Secretary..... Lorrie Arndt
Treasurer.....Lindsay Collins
Financial Secretary.....Jean Gaston
Minister of Music.....Sylvia Keller
Church Sexton.....Martin Billger
WebpageApril Osterstock
Newsletter Editor.....Sharon Billger

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

Please submit items by the **15th** of the month.

<http://www.mtzionkutztown.org/>

We could still have some snowy/icy weather in this month of March that may cause us to cancel Sunday services.
In case of inclement weather please check the following:



www.mtzionkutztown.org/events

www.facebook.com/mtzionkutztown

WFMZ TV Channel 69 Storm Center

and an E-blast will be sent.



Joint Mid-week Lenten Soup Suppers
Wednesday, March 6, 13, & 20

Turn your clocks ahead!!!

Saturday, March 9, before going to bed!



Happy St. Patrick's Day!
Praise Band & Fellowship Sunday
Sunday, March 17



Spring Begins!
Tuesday, March 19



Palm Sunday - Easter Egg Hunt
Sunday, March 24



Maundy Thursday (3/28) & Good Friday (3/29)
At Friedens, Stony Run



Easter Sunday - Don't forget your bells!
Easter Breakfast Served Between Services
Sunday, March 31



From The Vicar: The Three Days

***“A new command I give you: Love one another.
As I have loved you, so you must love one another.”***

- John 13:34

The Three Days are truly a roller coaster of emotions covering a vast spectrum of the human experience. Humanity – both Jesus’ humanity and our own – is a central theme throughout these days. Jesus shows us his humanity many times: from the way in which he washes his disciples’ dirty feet to the way he instructs them to love....even to the way that he bleeds and dies is *incredibly human* of him. It’s incredible in Jesus’ moment of “weakness”, or say, humanness, when he asks God to “remove this cup from me,” making one last plea to god to spare him...ultimately, we know how the story ends.....**Jesus is filled with resolve to make the sacrifice that he knows is necessary.**

This sacrifice comes **from a place of love**, and it’s a love **that is at the core of everything Jesus does** throughout his life. He doesn’t instruct us to love ourselves or him, but he pushes us out into the community, telling us to love one another as he loves us. **We are to take this love**, take this example, **and spread it around the world**. This is the last and most important lesson we get from our earthly Jesus, and it’s worth remembering each year. For that matter, **EVERY DAY !!!!!**

The Good Friday gospel from John almost reads like a John Grisham novel. It’s filled with drama, courtroom testimonies and a conflicted prosecutor. Pilate seems almost willing to overlook the challenge to the emperor’s power as he pushes for Jesus’ release over that of Barabbas. Combine this with Peter’s internal and external struggles, the vacillating crowd and crooked leaders, and Jesus’ bloody death, and there are countless images of humanity in all forms and of how we experience the same struggles and doubts of our time.

On Good Friday, resurrected life begins to shine from the tomb. So while we focus on the resurrected Jesus, **we don’t have to shy away from the human experience of living out the gospel**. In Mark’s account we witness the understandable fear and confusion expressed by the women at the tomb as they hear the news of Jesus’ rising. In this case, the good news was spread...what a joy it is to be able to carry on the task of spreading this good news from so long ago by so human a figure.....**“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.” Jesus..... and His Love!!!!!! Go....carry the message to ALL Humanity!!!!!! We are commanded !!!!!!!**

A Message from the Council President

Happy March! No need to catch a leprechaun at Mt. Zion. We are very lucky to have so many wonderful members and wonderful things going on. Please join us at fellowships, services, fundraisers, or Christian Education! There’s a place for you and there are committees that could use the experience or expertise that only you can bring!

Council met on February 8th. Here are a few of the things that were discussed:

- Christian Education--VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!! We talked about needing members who have their clearances for classes, discussed VBS progress and the need for volunteers to help at the stations, and talked about a need for someone to lead the Easter Egg Hunt. Christian Education is a major goal of this congregation. Please help out!
- Our fundraising folks are busy raising money to get lighting installed in the parking lot across the street. This will require running electricity from the pole on that side. We would also like to update our sign by Old Rt. 22.
- Council continues to watch the development of warehouses and the new Dollar General and discuss how any of this might impact our church.
- Council reviewed information about Christmas service attendance and worship times for summer.
- Vicar shared that we might have the organ back for Easter--lift up those prayers!
- Security cameras are to be installed in mid-February.
- The Scholarship Committee is reaching out to the local schools with information for our graduating HS seniors.
- Our historical documents are being digitized! We are working with the Lutheran Seminary. The documents will be available on Ancestry.com, and we will get our original documents back.
- New members were approved! Welcome to the Mt. Zion family!

Clean out those closets! Council member Anna Wanamaker is working with our LSO Committee to collect clothing for Hope Rescue Mission in March as her NHS service project. Clothing drop off will be in the back of the basement near the garden wall hanging.

Have a great month!
Karen

Local Shared Outreach Update

Our January focus collection items were **Hot Cereals and Hot Drinks**, we collected:

Hot Cereals - 25 Hot Drinks - 27 for a total of **52** items.
Additionally, we received **15** miscellaneous food items for a monthly total of **67** items.



Our March focus items are
Pet Foods and Pet Treats



When we collected these items in 2022 we were told by Friend that they are needed by their clients, but they don't often get them donated. They offer these pet food products to their food pantry clients because they sometimes struggle to feed their beloved cats and dogs.



Jingle Project

We continue with **Concern**, Fleetwood, as our Jingle Project recipient for the **January/February/March** quarter.

THANK YOU for your ongoing support of these Mt. Zion outreach ministries, it is greatly appreciated!

See pages 10 & 11 for thank you cards and letters that we have received, to read how **YOUR** generosity has made a real difference in the lives of our neighbors and beyond.

!!! Upcoming Projects !!!



Blood Drive for Miller-Keystone Blood Center



Give Blood
Save Life

Saturday, April 6, 9 AM - 2 PM

Mt. Zion Fellowship Hall

Give Blood
Save Life

See the poster on the Committee Bulletin Board in the upstairs hallway for scheduling instructions. We need a **minimum of 25 donors** in order for the blood bank to come out. More information will be shared in the Sunday bulletins and announcements.

Please consider donating - **BLOOD DONATIONS SAVE LIVES!**

Local Shared Outreach Upcoming Projects Continued

Our group is happy to support one of Mt. Zion's youth, Anna Wanamaker, for her National Honor Society Project of a Clothing Drive for the Hope Rescue Mission. See the poster below for the details. Please note that all underwear donations must be NEW.

Place your donations on the tables in the church basement at the rear of the Fellowship Hall. The congregations of Friedens and New Jerusalem Zion UCC are joining us in this project.

Our group meets next on Thursday, March 7, 7 PM, at NJZ UCC.



Fundraising Committee!

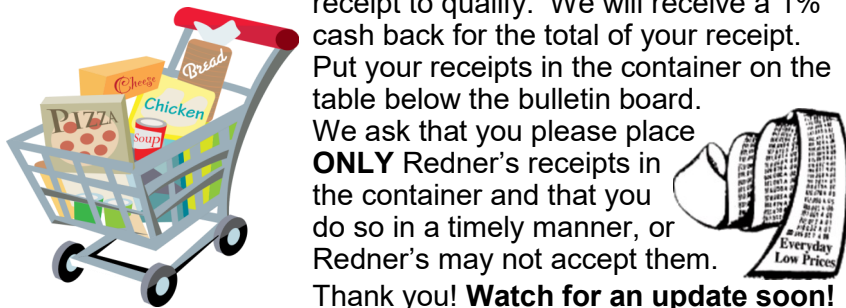
Thank you to everyone who placed a Norwex order!
We will share the profit figure when it becomes available.

Thank you to all who ordered Easter Candy from the Huguenot Lodge. A special thank you to Lester Miller for taking the orders and making his \$1.00 a pound donation to Mt. Zion.

Thank you to everyone who ordered from our Little Caesar's Pizza Kit fundraiser. Delivery/Pickup is scheduled for March 11.

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! **Watch for an update soon!**



★★★★ Important Notice about Communication: ★★★★★

Each week e-Blasts are sent by April on behalf of Vicar Heydt and other committees that share information about the many working parts of Mt. Zion. From the upcoming Gospel, with Notes and Teasers from Vicar Jeremiah to Flower sales from Worship & Music, you are advised by electronic mail if you have an e-mail address. If you are not receiving this information and would like to, please contact April Osterstock at:

A Oster43@gmail.com

From time to time an address gets bounced back as undeliverable. After three attempts, if she has no way of contacting you, she will delete the address from the list to prevent delay or corruption of other data. Now that we are back in the building and returning to its full use and expanding its potential, we want to keep you informed. Thank you.

Worship & Music Committee

SOUPer Bowl Report



The soups and cash donated on Sunday, February 11 were as follows:

Kansas City Chiefs	-	70 soups	&	\$40
San Francisco 49ers	-	36 soups	&	\$37

For a total of **106 soups** & **\$77 cash**

We were right on with our Super Bowl winner prediction!



The soups and cash were delivered to Friend, Inc., Kutztown, for their food pantry where they were happy to receive them! Soups are a popular item at the pantry. The cash will be used to purchase items at cheaper prices from the food bank to supply Friend's food pantry.

Thank you to everyone who supported this annual fun event that benefits members of our local community!

Scout Sunday

Thank you to the Boy Scouts of Troop 104 and the Cub Scouts of Pack 180 for their participation in Scout Sunday on February 18. They served as greeters, ushers, and lectors during worship. In addition, they shared with us a slide show of their activities. We wish the scouts a great year ahead!





Worship & Music Committee Continued

Lenten Soup Suppers and Studies

Our mid-week Soup Suppers and Lenten Studies continue on March 6, 13, and 20. We are hosting Friedens, Stony Run. **Soup Suppers begin at 6:00 PM** with the **Studies following at 7:00 PM.**

If you have not yet attended any of these mid-week events, we invite you to join us in this opportunity for study and reflection, and fellowship with our Friedens friends.

Maundy Thursday service on March 28, and Good Friday service on March 29, will be hosted by Friedens at 7:30 PM.

It is our hope that you will take advantage of these opportunities to study and worship at both Mt. Zion and with our friends at Friedens.

Palm Preparation

On Saturday, **March 23, at 10:00 AM** the committee will clean and prepare the palms for our Palm Sunday service. You are invited to come out and help with this task.



Easter Sunday Services and Breakfast

We will hold two services, **8 AM** and **10:15 AM**. Come out and enjoy Easter Breakfast with your church family between the services.

Our End To World Hunger Campaign

In December last year **ELCA World Hunger had a Challenge** to double contributions up to \$160,000.00. I'm happy to report that Mt. Zion contributed \$135.50 to the cause and doubling that made our contribution **\$271.00 !!!!!**

Last month when Pastor Potteiger was here representing **Food For The Poor**, our total to date for them was **\$275.00 !!!!!!!**

**Our Accumulated Total to date : \$546.00 !!!!!!!
FANTASTIC !!!!!!!**

You can, at any time, continue to contribute to these causes. There are FFTP envelopes on the table in the rear of the Sanctuary. They have a unique number on them so Mt Zion will be credited with your contribution. For ELCA, you can make out a check to Mt Zion with the notation it is for ELCA World Hunger.

Personally, from Vicar.....**THANK YOU !!!!!**

Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

- James 2:15-17



Thank You!

Salvation Army Red Kettle Report

We have received a report of the result of our LSO Group's Christmas caroling efforts on December 23, 2023, for the Salvation Army's Red Kettle fundraising drive. That morning we spent one hour singing Christmas carols at Radcliffe's grocery store in Mertztown. Two other individuals also spent an hour each manning the kettle that morning. Over that 3-hour time period **\$659.59** was donated into the red kettle, that's over **\$200** an hour!!!

The Red Kettle drive brings in much needed monies to fund the Salvation Army's programming to help those less fortunate. In our Berks County area The Army programs: provide housing, empower youth, meet basic family needs, brighten the holidays, overcome poverty, alleviate hunger, offer refuge to those who have experienced trauma, and they strive for violence prevention.

**Won't you think about joining us next time for
this fun event to spread holiday cheer?**

We received the following from Christ's Church at Lowhill:

Dear Mt. Zion Lutheran Church,

On behalf of the Christ's Church at Lowhill Food Pantry, I would like to thank you for your generous 2023 donation. Your church support of \$635 allowed us to provide much needed food items for families who live in the Northwestern Lehigh School District. Your financial support is especially appreciated during these difficult times. Because of your concern and generosity, we can continue to serve our local residents. Together, we serve up Hope to those who desperately need it!

Your donation went into our unrestricted fund which allowed us to purchase needed items for the pantry which includes food. This letter serves as acknowledgement of your gift for tax purposes. Your gift is fully tax deductible since no goods or services were received in exchange for these charitable donations.

Sincerely,

Nancy Zellner

Food Pantry Secretary

This refers to the \$635.00 Jingle Project donation we sent them.

Mt. Zion received the following:

*Dashing through the holidays, At Friend, we're all agreed,
Our Donors share in many ways, To help the folks in need.*

Giving bells ring out, Making spirits bright,

What fun it is.....we'll give a shout,

Volunteers...you're a delight!

Oh, Jingle Bells, Giving Bells,

We're grateful beyond compare.

Oh, what fun it is to know our community really cares!

2023 December Statistics

886 Pantry Individuals in **330** Households - including **194** children receiving Christmas Cheer gifts in the Kutztown, Fleetwood, and Brandywine Heights School districts.

Dear Congregation at Mt. Zion,

We deeply appreciate your congregation's effort in gathering monthly food and personal care items, 15 Holiday Dinner Boxes and 15 Christmas gifts for the children of our pantry clients. Your wonderful donations have made a significant impact, helping local families enjoy a wonderful year and holiday season!

From the clients, staff & Board of Friend, Inc. Community Services, we sincerely thank you and wish you a very successful 2024!

Editor's Note: The 2022 statistics were 771 pantry individuals and 271 households served. There was an increase of 115 individuals and 59 households in the 2023 year.

Dear Friends at Mt. Zion Lutheran Church,

What started with a single bag of coffee the Holy Spirit transformed into a unique world, a worldwide coffee ministry for Chaplains, the troops they serve and everybody else thirsty in the area, 24/7 365 for the last 17 years. The one thing God needed is our YES. This is Holy Joe's Café, His almighty all loving presence in a cup of coffee!

Thank you for your prayers and financial support. God bless you!

*In His service, Tom
Northford, CT*

Continually with Thee, Thou dost hold my right hand. Psalm 73:23

Editor's Note: This refers to our \$829.50 Jingle Project Donation. The thank you card was accompanied by a handful of photos showing in action this coffee ministry for our troops. I have made a small poster that is on display in the rear of the sanctuary for you to see.

Christian Ed Committee

Mt Zion Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, March 24th, 2024

Outside after church at 11:45am

~ weather permitting!



No Rain date - Egg Hunt will be held indoors if there is inclement weather.

This year we will not be accepting donations of prizes or individually wrapped candy. If you would like to contribute a monetary donation to put towards the egg hunt candy and prize for the children, please place in an envelope marked "Easter Egg Hunt."

We are accepting donations of hard-boiled eggs, which can be placed in the church kitchen refrigerator by the morning of Sunday, March 17th. You are welcome to join the youth group **Sunday, March 17th from 5:30-8:30pm** to paint the hard-boiled eggs.

All are welcome to join in some Easter fun!
We hope to see you there!

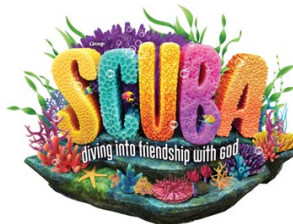


VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!



- We are seeking volunteers to help with the **Egg Hunt**, please contact Michelle Fegely, michellefegely@gmail.com, to help.

- We are seeking volunteers to help with **Vacation Bible School**. The program, **SCUBA - diving into friendship with God**, will be held **June 24 to June 28**. Help is needed in the different stations of the program. In addition, we need youth to serve as Crew Leaders helping the children move from station to station. Clearances on file with the church office are required for anyone 18 and over. See the sign-up sheet on the Committee Bulletin Board in the hallway at the rear of the sanctuary. Contact Karen Wanamaker, cmclibrarian@gmail.com, for any questions you may have.








Won't you please consider volunteering for the Egg Hunt or Vacation Bible School to the benefit of Mt. Zion's children?



March 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship & Holy Communion	4	5 7:30 PM Choir Practice	6 6 PM Lenten Soup Supper & Study 7 PM Study 7:30 PM Praise Band	7 7 PM LSO Meeting at NJZ UCC	8	9 Spring Ahead 1 Hour!  Time Change
10 9 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship & Holy Communion	11 Time TBD - Pizza Kit Delivery/Pickup	12 6:30 PM Praise Band 7:30 PM Choir Practice	13 6 PM Lenten Soup Supper & Study 7 PM Study	14 7 PM Church Council	15	16 2 PM Resident BINGO at Topton Home 
17 9 AM Sun. School 10:15 AM Worship & Holy Communion Praise Band Sunday Fellowship Hour St. Patrick's Day  5:30-7 PM Youth Group	18 11 AM Social Ministry Committee 6:30 PM Property	19 First day of SPRING 10 AM Sewing Group 	20 6 PM Lenten Soup Supper & Study 7 PM Study 7:30 PM Praise Band	21	22	23 10 AM Palm Preparation 1:00-6 PM Berger Event
24 Palm Sunday 9 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship & Holy Communion 11:45 AM Easter Egg Hunt 	25 2 PM Fundraising	26 6:30 PM Praise Band 7:30 PM Choir Practice	27 6:30 PM Worship & Music Meeting	28 7:30 PM Maundy Thursday Service at Friedens 	29 7:30 PM Good Friday Service at Friedens 	30
31 Easter Sunday 8 AM Worship & Holy Communion NO Sunday School Easter Breakfast 10:15 AM Worship & Holy Communion		NOTE: Hope Rescue Mission Clothing Drive begins on March 1 and runs <u>through</u> the month to March 31. 				

Invitation from St. Paul's Lobachsville

Everyone is invited to join us on **SUNDAY, MARCH 17th from 4-7 PM** as we travel back in time to 30 AD to the **JERUSALEM MARKETPLACE** to experience what it was like when Jesus lived here on the earth. This is a family activity so we hope all members of your family will come, but if they can't and it's just you and/or your child, that's fine.

We will dress in costumes similar to what they wore in Bible times. You can create your own - bath-robos, as long as there aren't any modern day characters on them, make great costumes - or wear one of ours.

We will all gather together at the beginning and the end for some singing and dancing. The remainder of the time we will be in groups of 6-10 people of different ages and from same families to become a tribe. Each tribe will spend part of the evening as a unit to learn about life back in Jesus' time. Together each tribe will visit the Marketplace where they will have the opportunity to make 3 toys that Jesus would have made and played with when he was just a boy - a dreidel, a small flute and a wooden sheep.



After sharing a meal together they will learn some Jewish dances, attend synagogue school, and play games at the playground.

This is sure to be a fun and educational experience that you will remember for years to come. So plan to join us and feel free to invite other family members, your friends, and your neighbors.

If you are interested and planning to attend please let Sharon Billger (610-682-7038) know so she can pass it on to St. Paul's. They want to be prepared with supplies for everyone.



Congrats from Thrivent

Congratulations Mt. Zion Lutheran Church!!!

\$ In 2023 you received **\$4,149** in **\$**
Thrivent Choice Dollars® grant funding.

We're proud to help support the important work you do and hope, together, we can do even more in 2024!

- Thrivent Financial

THANK YOU to all who have already designated their 2023 Choice Dollars to Mt. Zion. It is greatly appreciated!

Thrivent 2023 Choice Dollars® expire on March 31, 2024!!!

The Thrivent Choice® program provides eligible participants the opportunity to recommend where to distribute some of Thrivent's charitable outreach funds. **Eligible benefit members directing their Choice Dollars to Mt. Zion is a great way to make a difference in our church, you can help boost our treasury.**

To ensure that your Choice Dollars directions get processed before the deadline, **don't wait. Remember to direct your Choice Dollars now!**

Before your 2023 Choice Dollars expire use one of these two easy options for directing your Choice Dollars:

- ♦ Online: www.Thrivent.com/thriventchoice.
- ♦ Phone: 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" at the prompt.

If you haven't yet designated your 2023 Choice Dollars, please consider sending them to Mt. Zion and do so before the March 31, 2024 deadline! Thank you!

Sharon C. Billger
Mt. Zion Thrivent Congregational Liaison

Recipe of the Month

This month's featured recipe is from Jeff Wetzel. Want to get more oats in your diet? Try this delicious pie! It tastes very much like pecan pie but has no nuts, so it's good for anyone with a nut allergy.

Oatmeal Pie

INGREDIENTS:

3/4 cup sugar
1 stick butter, softened
2 beaten eggs
3/4 cup dark corn syrup
3/4 cup quick oats
1/2 cup coconut
Unbaked pie shell



DIRECTIONS:

1. Preheat oven to 350°. Cream together sugar and butter.
2. Add eggs, corn syrup, oats, and coconut.
3. Mix well and pour into pie shell.
4. Bake for 45 minutes at 350°.

Editor's Note: I had never heard of Oatmeal Pie so I did some google research. The origins of this pie are not certain, some think that it originates from the Amish community, others feel that the recipe was created in the south during the Civil War. Pecans were expensive or hard to find in that time period.

Instead of granulated sugar, some recipes use light brown sugar to add flavor, some use dark brown sugar to give it a more molasses taste. Some recipes add vanilla, cinnamon, and salt for added flavor. Some call for coconut, others do not. They all use quick oats for the texture and because they are thinly rolled and will best absorb the filling liquid. Also, quick oats are easier to eat.

Tip: Be sure to let the pie cool completely before cutting, it needs time to set up or it will be runny. It is delicious served with a scoop of vanilla ice cream!

Do you have a favorite recipe to share?

*To submit your recipe, email it to me at
nighthawk2@dejazzd.com
or give me a copy at church. - Editor*

March 2024

PRAYER REMEMBRANCE



Please remember the following persons in your weekly prayers.

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

*Phyllis Andrews, John Barlet, Jennifer Biglin, Doris Boehm,
Leroy Bleiler, Atlas Burk, Calliope Burk, Larry Fink,
Barbara Geisler, Nathaniel Gibson, Linda Grim, Tyler Grim,
Kathy Grym, Doug Grym, Christine High, Jean Higgins,
Wayne Iman, Susan Landers, David Lewis, Annetta Merkel,
Sharon Miller, Della Noll, Keith Rohrbach, Randy Schlegel,
Dolly Selleck, LaVerne Stevens, Dean Sunday, Jack Theres,
Cherry Thomas, Sara Vanderklute, Debbie Way,
Judy Weisner, Jessica Wessner, Tim Wessner,
Michelle Zobel*

*Help us 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.*



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

THIS MONTH'S FEATURED MT. ZION VISITATIONS

Mr. Paul Miller	Mrs. Myrtle Weisner
Willow Brook Room 222W	Berks Heim Rm B2-232-2
120 Trexler Avenue	1011 Berks Road
Kutztown, PA 19530	Allentown, PA 18103



Upcoming Events



Joint Mid-week Lenten Soup Suppers & Studies

Wednesday, March 6, 13, & 20

See details on page 9.



Turn your clocks ahead!!!

Saturday, March 9, before going to bed!

Resident BINGO at The Lutheran Home at Topton

Saturday, March 16

See details on page 21.



Happy St. Patrick's Day! Praise Band & Fellowship

Sunday, March 17

Spring Begins & Social Ministry's Sewing Group

Tuesday, March 19

See details on page 21.



Palm Sunday - Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, March 24, 11:45 AM

See details on page 12



Maundy Thursday Service at Friedens, Stony Run

Thursday, March 28

Good Friday Service at Friedens, Stony Run

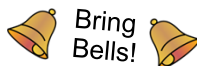
Friday, March 29

Easter Sunday - 8 AM & 10:15 Services

with Easter Breakfast in between

Sunday, March 31

See Holy Week details on page 9.



Bring Bells!



Upcoming Community Event!

Tuesday, March 5 - Theology with a Twist

Kutztown Tavern - 7 PM

Faith and the Upcoming Elections

The nation's increasingly combative political polarization is partly fueled by the tension between "red state" and "blue state" forms of Christianity. Join Dr. Lee Barrett as we explore the visceral spiritual hungers and fears that motivate each of these factions and consider possible ways to promote a less belligerent conversation.

Dr. Barrett is the Chair in Theology and Professor of Systematic Theology at Lancaster Theological Seminary. He holds a BA, MDiv, MA, and PhD, all from Yale University. He is an engaging speaker, accomplished author and theologian. His most recent publication is "Kierkegaard on God's Will and Human Freedom: An Upbuilding Antinomy" (2023).

March Service Calendar

2024 DATE	SUNDAY	ORDER OF WORSHIP	WORSHIP ASSIST	HOLY COMMUNION	COMMENTS
3-March	10:15 am 3 Lent	ELW	Jeff	Yes	Malotte's Lord's Prayer
10-March	10:15 am 4 Lent	ELW	April	Yes	
17-March	10:15 am 5 Lent	ELW	Sue	Yes	Praise Band Fellowship
24-March	10:15 am Palm Sunday	ELW	April	Yes	Palm Sunday
28-March	7:30 pm Maundy Thursday	—	—	Yes	Maundy Thursday Service at Friedens, Stony Run
29-March	7:30 pm Good Friday	—	—	No	Good Friday Service at Frieden's, Stony Run
31-March	8 am Easter Sunday 10:15 am	ELW	April Jeff	Yes	Resurrection of our Lord Two Services: 8 & 10:15 AM BRING BELLS! Easter Breakfast between services

Church Fellowship Hour



Fellowship this month
will be hosted by
the Choir.

Thank you!



On February 18, 2024 we welcomed the following into our fellowship by Affirmation of Faith:

Valerie and David Bonner

Susan & William Spirk

Congratulations on joining our Mt. Zion church family!

Social Ministry Committee News!!!

Sewing Group
Tuesday, March 19, 10 AM
 at the Clemmer home.

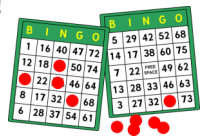


Bring a packed lunch or leave if you must!

Lutheran Home at Topton BINGO!

Our committee is answering the home's call for congregational help for their residents. The Covid pandemic caused a disconnect between the residents of the home and local churches. The residents are starving for interconnection with visitors. The home has asked for churches to plan activities and to come in and spend time with their residents. We have planned a BINGO event, these are very popular with the residents!

We ask YOU, the congregation of Mt. Zion, to come out and help at this event and to engage with the residents that are so eager to meet you!



Saturday, March 16, 2 PM
Deibert Hall (off of Home Road)
Lutheran Home at Topton

Please contact Chair Janice Clemmer or Secretary Sharon Billger and let us know you will participate, or, you can add your name to the sign-up sheet on the Committee Bulletin Board.

The Lutheran Home at Topton residents need you!!!

Social Ministry Committee Continued!!!



We're Having A Baby Shower!



Since our previous baby shower for Mary's Shelter in 2020 was such a wonderful success, we have decided to have another one.

While the shelter will accept any baby items, we have received a list of **specific items that are always needed:**

Bottles	Bottle cleaning brushes	Pacifiers
Bibs	Nail clippers or scissors	Hair brush/comb sets
Wipes	Baby thermometers	Diaper rash creams
	Medicine dispensers or pacifiers	
Diapers - especially large sizes 3, 4, 5, and 6's		

The shelter uses these items to create "Welcome Bags" for the moms and babies coming in for care.

Our baby shower will run from the beginning of April through Mother's Day, May 12, 2024. We are giving you the list of needed items this month in case you'd like to start shopping. **Beginning in April there will be a bassinet in the rear of the sanctuary in which to place your donations. Thank you!**



Mt. Zion Received the Following Letter from the United Way:

United way of Berks County has partnered with several Pennsylvania United Ways to provide residents with access to PA 211, a free, 24/7, confidential, non-emergency, comprehensive information and referral service that connects community members with the health and human services they need.

PA 211 connects families and individuals with valuable resources in Berks County and beyond - from housing and utility payment assistance, veteran services, after-school programs for kids, to food, healthcare, and disaster assistance, among others. Anyone can call to speak with the trained resource specialists and be referred to local human services within their community with providers that can help. Information can be accessed via the website pa211east.org/Berks by dialing 211 (or 1-855-567-5341), texting one's zip code to 898-211, or via chat during normal working hours. 211 is available in multiple languages.

Sincerely,

Ashley N. Chambers, Senior Vice President
Kristen Gehris, Assistant Director

Editor's Note: Included were resource materials. A 211 info sheet is posted on the yellow events bulletin board and 211 tear offs are on the info table at the rear of the sanctuary. Please use as needed.

1-March	Camden	Follweiler
1-March	Michael	O'Neil
2-March	John	Knutsen
3-March	Brielle	Brocius
3-March	Shalan	Keller
5-March	Debra	Jones
5-March	Christopher	Gehris
5-March	Meaghan	Dietrich
9-March	Cheryl	Bond
9-March	Jayden	Gehris
10-March	Lillian	Moyer
10-March	Jennifer	Klinger
11-March	Jordan	Keller
15-March	Tina	Mengel
16-March	Noah	Grube
20-March	Noah	Russo
20-March	Jessica	Suchon
22-March	Michelle	Fegely
22-March	Ryan	McAteer
25-March	Carl	Bruno
26-March	Jesslyn	Gehman
26-March	Kelly	Weisner
27-March	Brett	Arndt
28-March	Kelly	Hertzog
29-March	Landon	Grube
30-March	Sandra	Tamagnone
30-March	Hannah	Hertzog
30-March	Avery	Salgado
31-March	Cindy	Meigio

Happy Birthday !



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.

Happy Anniversary



03/14/2015	Nichole & Tony Miller
03/20/1993	Denise & Kenneth Sanner
03/23/1974	Nancy & Dennis Miller
03/24/2018	Shalon & David Kupp
03/28/2021	Deborah & Wm Frear Jr.

March Worship Service Support

<u>March 3</u>	<u>10:15 AM</u>
Acolytes	Jayda Rutherford & Aubrey Grym
Greeters	Cheryl & Jack Franckowiak
Lector	Confirmation Class
Ushers	Cheryl & Jack Franckowiak, Volunteers
Comm. Asst.	Lorrie & Joe Arndt
Flowers	NO FLOWERS IN LENT
Bulletins	
<u>March 10</u>	<u>10:15 AM</u>
Acolyte	Norah Fegely
Greeters	April Osterstock, Karen Wanamaker
Lector	Eloise Tucker
Ushers	Bill Green, Michelle Fegely, Karen & Anna Wanamaker
Comm. Asst.	Diane & Ed German
Flowers	NO FLOWERS IN LENT
Bulletins	Lillian Moyer in Celebration of her birthday and in Memory of her sons.
<u>March 17</u>	<u>10:15 AM</u>
Acolyte	Frank Fritzinger
Greeters	Lillian Moyer, Esther Kerr
Lector	Debra Kohler
Ushers	Lillian Moyer, Volunteers
Comm. Asst.	Debra Kohler, Janice Clemmer
Flowers	NO FLOWERS IN LENT
Bulletins	Helen Wessner in Celebration of her Great-Granddaughter Morgan Traylor's 7th Birthday.
<u>March 24</u>	<u>10:15 AM</u> <u>Palm Sunday</u>
Acolyte	Matthew Riegel
Greeters	Eloise Tucker, Jacob Wessner
Lector	Lisa Christman
Ushers	Confirmation Class

March Worship Support Continued

<u>March 24</u>	<u>10:15 AM Continued</u>
Comm. Asst.	Lisa Christman, Sue Stemko
Flowers	PALMS
Bulletins	Sue Stemko In Memory of her Mother Kathryn.
<u>March 28</u>	<u>7:30 PM Maundy Thursday Service at Friedens, Stony Run</u>
<u>March 29</u>	<u>7:30 PM Good Friday Service at Friedens, Stony Run</u>
<u>March 31</u>	<u>8 AM & 10:15 AM <i>Easter Sunday</i></u>
Acolytes	8 AM TBD 10:15 AM Haven Fegely & Norah Fegely
Greeters	8 AM Janice & Kenneth Clemmer 10:15 AM Cynthia & Jeffrey Wetzal
Lector	8 AM Sharon Billger 10:15 AM Cheryl Franckowiak
Ushers	8 AM Janice & Kenneth Clemmer, Volunteers 10:15 AM Cynthia & Jeffrey Wetzal, Volunteers
Comm. Asst.	8 AM Sharon & Martin Billger 10:15 AM Cheryl Franckowiak, Debra Fink
Flowers	
Bulletins	Salgado Family In Celebration of Avery's 2nd Birthday.

*We are in need of Bulletin sponsors on March 3 and
Flower sponsors on Easter Sunday, March 31.*

*Please consider commemorating a special event or memory
of a loved one with a donation of bulletins or flowers.
Bulletin sponsorship donation is \$20.00. Thank you!*

ATTENTION!



Upcoming Time Change!!!

Daylight Saving Time begins at
2:00 AM on Sunday, March 10,
it will be time to spring ahead and
turn the clocks forward 1 hour!

Valentine Trivia Answers

1. Conversation hearts (Sweethearts) were first made by what company?
Necco (New England Confectionery Company), best know for its namesake Necco Wafers.
2. Which type of love is known as the ideal type of love?
Agape - a selfless, unconditional, sacrificial, universal love - for everyone.
3. Which country is NOT known for its rose production?
Uruguay - the other three (Ecuador, Columbia, Kenya) are the largest rose producing countries in the world. They have ideal growing condition, including high altitude, plenty of sunshine, and mild temperatures, which allow for the production of high-quality roses year-round.
4. Who invented the first heart-shaped Valentine candy box?
Richard Cadbury in 1861.
5. People of which profession receive the most cards on St. Valentine's Day?
Teachers - followed by children, mothers, wives/girlfriends & pets.
6. When did England's King Henry VII officially declared Feb. 14 the holiday of St. Valentine's Day?
1537 - it is said he was love-struck at the time.
7. In which gospel does the verse "Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; abide in My love" appear?
John - 15:9
8. What card company is the top seller of Valentine's cards in America?
Hallmark - which produced their first Valentines in 1913.

How did you do with this trivia game?

Committee Corner!

LSO Group: Donate to Hope Rescue Mission Clothing Drive. Seeking donors for our April 6 Blood Drive. See the poster on the Committee Bulletin Board for sign-up info.

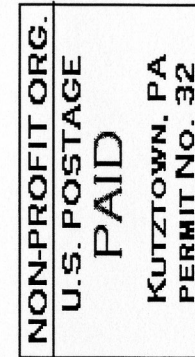
Social Ministry: We need help to run BINGO at the Lutheran home at Topton on Sat., March 16. See poster to sign up.

Mutual Ministry: Continues to seek a Confirmed Youth Member of the congregation to be on their committee. Please contact Dan Batz (610-737-4985) or Vicar Jeremiah (972-839-9363) if you could serve.

Vacation Bible School - We continue to seek volunteers for VBS. Won't you help with this popular children's event this year? You don't need to help every night, help when you can. See the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for the program areas. Contact Karen Wanamaker at cmclibrarian@gmail.com for any questions you may have.

Summer Fest - Do you want to see the return of our big outreach event, our annual Summer Fest? Then please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for the various fest areas where you can help. Contact Vicar Jeremiah for any questions.

REMEMBER to keep checking the **Committee News** bulletin board in the upstairs hallway for opportunities to help Mt. Zion's committees!!! You are sure to find an area where you can help.



Mt. Zion Lutheran Church
1343 Long Lane Road
Kutztown, PA 19530

Return Service Requested

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