



Sept. 2018

Zion's News

*Reflecting Christ, we share God's gifts in
Jonestown and beyond.*



Pastor Caitlin Kurtz

When was the last time you opened a Bible? When was the last time you had a conversation about a passage of scripture with a loved one? When was the last time, aside from Sunday worship, you learned *about* the Bible—it's authors, history, purpose, and meaning? For many of us, the answer to all these questions is "too long ago". And the reasons are many: we live busy lives. Opening scripture can feel intimidating (where do I begin? What if I don't understand? Where do I find what I'm looking for, anyway?). We never learned *how* to read the Bible. We tried reading it once, cover to cover, and we found parts of it downright boring. We never *talked* about the Bible at home growing up, so now faith conversations feel awkward.

Hear this: You are not alone. For many in our congregation, encountering Scripture is limited to the excerpts that are read on Sunday morning. And while this may be a good starting point, more intentionality is required to fully understand the breadth and depth of this holy treasure. These reasons, and more, are why our Christian Education team, together with Worship and Music and Council, have named 2018-2019 as "The Year of the Bible".

Do we believe we will cover everything you need to know about Holy Scripture in the next year? Absolutely not—the Bible is a living Word, which means there is always more to learn, and its application to our lives is forever changing. But we do hope, in this year, to increase the biblical fluency of our congregation by equipping you with tools for studying and applying scripture in your daily lives, and encouraging the practice of spiritual disciplines, like scripture reading and faith conversations, at home.

How will we do this? Well, that answer is still in progress. For starters, we will:

1. Encourage you to *bring* your personal Bible to worship and *open* it (or the one in the pew) while the scripture passages are being read.
2. Host an "All Church" program once a month during the Sunday school hour with activities for all ages
3. Provide a "Taking Faith Home" insert every week, with discuss questions, daily scripture readings, and faith practices for you to do at home.
4. List in each week's bulletin the readings for next week so that you can read ahead
5. Make available study Bibles for those who wish to use them—these provide helpful background information and thoughtful questions to increase your understanding of certain passages
6. Offer a four week "How to Use the Bible" class on Wednesday nights from 6:50-7:30 PM, beginning on September 12.

A few other changes to note for the 2018-2019 year:

1. This year's confirmation class includes 17 students, which means we need a bigger place to meet! Confirmation class will meet in the main part of the Social Hall from 9:15-10:10 AM on Sunday—**Coffee will be moved into the Gathering Area. Please do not enter the Social Hall before 10:10 AM unless you wish to attend Confirmation class**—which you're welcome to do!
2. **Getting to Know You Time** will be held on the same Sundays as our "All Church" gatherings. For the fall and early winter, Getting to Know You Time will begin at 10 AM on: October 7, November 4, December 2, and January 13
3. Junior choir and adult choir rehearsals are moving to Wednesday nights. Junior choir will meet at 6:50 PM and adult choir will meet at 7:30 PM. We currently have no leader for Cherub Choir, so there will not be a Cherub choir this year—if you'd like to lead, please let me know!

I look forward to sharing this "Year of the Bible" with you, beginning with Rally Day on September 9.

In hope, Pastor Caitlin



Sunday, September 9: Kicking off the "Year of the Bible"

9:00 Pancake Breakfast

9:30 Sunday School for all ages—Pre-K thru 5th grade
downstairs, 6th thru adult in Social Hall



Homebound Birthdays
(cards, calls, visits)

Elvin Heller Birthday: Sept. 8
Country Meadows Apt. 225
451 Sand Hill Rd. PH: 717-298-3190
Hershey, PA 17033

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Julia Albert and Deb Pappas continue to provide prayer shawls for the seriously ill and baby afghans for the newborn. If you can knit or crochet, and would like to help with this ministry, contact the ladies at 717-865-1560.

Spang Crest Chicken Bar-be-que

Spang Crest will be having a chicken bar-be-que fundraiser on Friday, Sept. 7, from 2:30-6:30 pm. Cost is \$7.50 for 1/2 chicken, baked potato, roll, and applesauce. Jean Fowler, our Spang Crest Rep., will be selling tickets in the gathering area after worship.

Zion's College Students:

Please give your college address to the church office (zions@comcast.net), so that we can stay in touch and provide care packages throughout the school year.

Zion's Sewing Group

Zion's sewing ladies provide a valuable ministry by sewing quilts which are given locally, such as to the Pre-school children, and also to other charities. They meet on the last Wednesday of the month at 9:00 am in the east room of the primary Sunday School area. If you are interested in helping with this ministry, contact Anna Houser, 717-865-2872.

Thank You

Thank you for the many cards, birthday wishes, and kind thoughts for my 100th birthday.

-Paul Zimmerman and family.

Thank you for the prayers, cards, calls, Koinonia class lap blanket and visits from the Jonestown Male Chorus and others. I am doing well.—Ken Hess

✝ **MEMORIAL FUND** ✝

In memory of William & Maria Haniman

Wendy Haniman

Elizabeth Lloyd

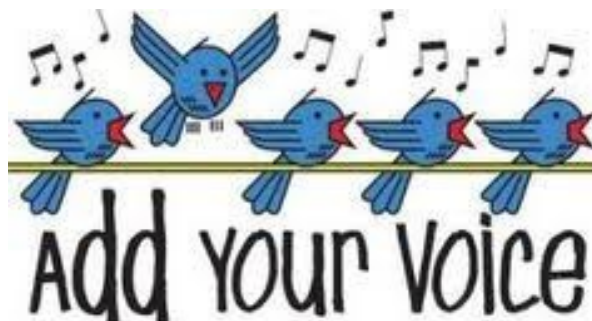
Lisa Crist

In memory of Jimmie Lentz

Dr. James Tibbitts

Hospital Admissions

Please inform the church office when you or a loved one becomes a patient in the hospital or other health care facility, or if there are changes in your health status. The federal HIPPA regulations do not permit health care providers to release personal information such as this without your expressed permission. Not all health care facilities have chaplains on staff to contact us about your admission. A phone call to the church office at 717-865-2848, will help us to respond to you with pastoral care for a time of change in your life.



Choirs at Zions!

Junior Choir rehearsals will be held on Wednesday nights at 6:45 pm.

Adult Choir rehearsals will be held on Wednesday nights at 7:30 pm.

Christian Education

Chair: Michele McQuaide(michelemcquaide@rocketmail.com;330-958-3399)



Sunday, September 9
Kicking off the
"Year of the Bible"

9:00—9:30 AM Pancake Breakfast

No sign up necessary. This is a fundraiser for the Youth Christmas Mission. Suggested donation is \$2/person or \$10/family.



9:30-10:10 AM Sunday School for all ages

Ages 3 thru 5th grade will go downstairs to meet in their classrooms. Confirmation students thru adults will stay in Social Hall for a lesson with Pastor Caitlin that kicks off our Year of the Bible celebration. *Parents of children ages 3 - 1st grade, please pick up your students at 10:10.*

10:30 AM Worship in Sanctuary

4 PM Church Picnic begins at Levitz Park with Bingo and games for children. You are invited to bring prizes to place on prize table



5 PM Church Picnic meal



Please help us prepare for the meal by signing up in the Gathering Area by Sunday, August 26.

Sunday School begins at 9:15 for all ages Pre-K thru 5th grade start with Chapel, move to their classrooms at 9:30

****Please note that choir rehearsals are now on Wednesday night****

Teachers, please be sure to sign up for the dates you are available to teach between Sept. and the end of the calendar year. **Helpers**, don't forget to sign up to assist the teacher for the Level 1 class.

Looking ahead:

Oct. 7—"All Church" Intergenerational Sunday—Intro to the Bible

Oct. 28—Reformation Sunday/Confirmation/Confirmation Lunch

Nov. 4—"All Church" Intergenerational Sunday—All Saints Day



COUNCIL

Next Meeting: Sept. 13, 2018

President: Tom Mohn (tommohn@verizon.net; 717-865-3341)

Council Highlights from August 2018 meeting

-Council made plans for a Council retreat in January 2019, which will focus on defining Zion's ministry plan for the next 3-5 years. Led by Deacon Marsha Roscoe, we will ask "What is God calling us to do right now?"

-Until that Council retreat takes place, Pastor Caitlin identified priorities that we can begin to work on now. Council agreed that our priorities for the next six-eight months are:

1. Faith formation for all ages—we need to help people engage scripture regularly and encourage participation in spiritual practices at home
2. Re-determining our purpose/identity--we will spend time at each Council meeting doing pre-work for our January Council retreat
3. Deepen discipleship/expand leadership capacity—as people engage regularly with scripture and reflect on how scripture calls us to serve God by serving others, we will look to include more people in making ministry happen at Zion's
4. Seek the input of visionaries and prophets—Our Council members currently have the spiritual gifts of "pastor" and "teacher", but we need the input of "prophets" and "apostles", people who can imagine what is not yet here, and who have gifts for discerning how God is calling us to act. We will soon begin recruitment for 2019-2022 Council members--might God be calling you to share your gifts on our Council?

-Tom Mohn reported that quotes from H&M Glass on modifying the door adjacent to the elevator will be forthcoming in September. Thanks was expressed for all who helped with the indoor work day on August 4. Soon we will schedule an outdoor work day. Christine Techky will organize weekly weeders to help with the flower beds.

-Christian Ed proposed, and Council blessed, that 2018-2019 will be "The Year of the Bible" at Zion's, in an effort to increase our congregation's fluency with scripture. More information available in Pastor Caitlin's newsletter article.

-We received the Preschool report stating that there has not been enough interest to date to support expanding the program to include an afternoon session. The Preschool board will continue to brainstorm expansion ideas.

-Council expressed thanks to Jim and Laurie Gill for serving as Youth Leaders since 2014. Joanna Guldin-Noll and Pastor Caitlin will now lead the group.

-Council expressed thanks to Jim Adams for opening and closing the church every Sunday for roughly thirty years.

KOINONIA CLASS

Next meeting: Sept. 8 @ 6:30 at the church

President: Sharon Davis (dsdavis11@comcast.net, 717-865-2781)

Koinonia Class is a group that provides fellowship for those who attend, and also service for the church. The class raises money through our annual Hollyberry Bazaar, which is given back to the church in projects or monetary donations. We have business meetings on the second Saturday of the odd months at 7:00pm. Social activities are seasonal. Won't you join us? Everyone is truly welcome. Watch for upcoming activities.

Project: Hollyberry Bazaar

Our annual **Hollyberry Bazaar** will be held on Sat., Nov. 3 from 8am - 2pm. Start planning now! We would appreciate craft items, gift baskets, used books, jellies, candy, baked goods, etc.

Craft items to donate - contact Sharon Houser: slhouser00@gmail.com, 717-376-5010

Gift baskets to donate - contact Georgetta Wolfe: 717-865-3884

Used books to donate - donation box in the social hall

Donations of gift baskets or other items worth \$25 or more for the raffle table -

contact Elaine Ludwig: eludadvo@comcast.net, 717-865-3757

We have a few extra tables for rent at \$10 each.

We are asking for donations of pine sized canning jars and jelly jars, for the bazaar. Please put them in the kitchen in the container marked for this. Thanks!

Please contact the Bazaar Committee with any questions:

Karen Hitz, 717-272-9520

Blanche Sebastian, 717-865-3336

Sharon Davis, 717-865-2781



Worship

Chair: Noel Strattan (dns@telecommute.net; 865-7747)

Wednesday's At Zions

Our first official fall Rejoicing Spirits is planned for
September 12th

Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Rejoicing  **Spirits**

Pasta, Meatballs, and Salad Provided

Dinner at 5:30pm, Worship at 6:15pm, and Kings Kids/Bible Study/Junior Choir at 6:45-7:30pm

Signups for dessert and future weeks will be available on the social hall bulletin board after August 21st.

Please consider sharing your talents with Kings Kids this year! We would love to learn more about sewing, woodworking, painting, and baking! If interested, please contact Monica Bortz (zionswednesdays@gmail.com)

LUNCH BUNCH

Lunch Bunch will be held on Thursday, September 20 at 12:30 pm at the Swatara Coffee Company. All are welcome!

Women's Bible study for September will be held at
Pastor Caitlin's home at 7:00 pm, on September 20. At

this gathering, we will decide when to meet for the year. If you're unable to attend, but would like to give input as to our gathering day and time, please send Pastor an email (pastorckurtz@gmail.com) prior to the gathering.



Question of the month: What's the difference between a christening and a baptism?

It was such a joy to celebrate Madelyn's baptism with you! As we prepared for that day, friends, family members, and members of our congregation asked about baptism vs. christening. Here's the scoop, both from the dictionary and universal Christian history, and from our particular Lutheran perspective.

Webster's dictionary defines baptism as "a Christian sacrament marked by ritual use of water and admitting the recipient to the Christian community." Baptism is a Greek word that appears in the New Testament, and was practiced prior to Christianity. Before Jesus, 'baptism' simply meant the ritual use of water for purification (this is the baptism John the Baptist refers to before Jesus enters the scene). In the book of Acts, we read that entire households are baptized (one of the reasons Lutheran Christians, and others, practice infant baptism), and Jesus' parting words to the disciples (known as the "Great Commission") are "therefore, go, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you". Both children and adults can be baptized. While some Christians believe that baptism is only valid if the recipient understands what is happening, Lutheran Christians practice infant baptism because baptism is solely the work of God (even if an adult 'chooses' baptism for herself, we believe that it is the Holy Spirit already at work in her that enables her to make that choice). In the Small Catechism, Martin Luther explains that baptism "works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare." Baptism is a sacrament in the Lutheran, Catholic, Episcopal, Methodist, and Presbyterian churches.

Webster's defines a Christening, as a "ceremony of baptizing and naming a child". It is a ceremony that is traditionally only for babies and young children, as it involves a naming ceremony (to "christen" means "to give a name to"). The earliest "Christening" dates to the 14th century, and comes from English culture.

In short, baptism dates back to before Jesus, is commanded by Jesus, and is a sacrament in the Roman Catholic church and all mainline Protestant Churches. Christenings only date back to the 14th century, and involve naming ceremonies.



Evangelism

Chair: Elaine Ludwig (eludadvo@comcast.net; 865-3757)

Lebanon County Christian Ministries

(LCCM) Wish List:

Canned fruit	Spaghetti Sauce
Toothpaste	Bar soap

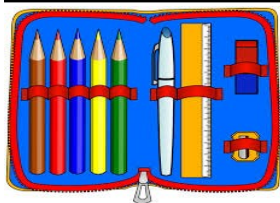
*Place contributions in the container marked
"LCCM" in social hall. (Watch expiration dates)*

Jonestown Outreach pantrY (JOY)

Wish List:

Canned Beets, Carrots, Corn, Mixed Vegetables and Potatoes, Creamed Soups, Canned Fruit, Baked Beans, Instant Potatoes, Vegetable Soup, Canned Pasta, Pudding Packs, Saltines, Stew, Spaghetti Sauce, Beef Stew, Spam, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Dish Detergent, Laundry Detergent.

*Place contributions in the container marked
"JOY" in social hall. (Watch expiration dates)*



School Kits. Zions is collecting school supplies and assembling backpacks for children around the world so they can attend school. To help out, please check out the "School Kits" chart in the gathering area. Just tear off a sticky note for each supply you wish to donate. Return the supplies by Sept. 16. Our goal is 20 backpacks.

Youth Group

Leaders: Pastor Caitlin and Joanna Guldin-Noll

pastorckurtz@gmail.com

joanna.guldin@gmail.com



Youth Groupers and Families:

Thanks for a great planning meeting in August! Here's the schedule for the year so far. Stay tuned to email and bulletin announcements for further details.

September 9: Please arrive by 8:45 to help with our Rally Day pancake breakfast, which is a fundraiser for our Christmas mission project.

September 16, after worship: We will be working at JOY Pantry as part of our congregation's "God's Work, Our Hands" Day of Service. Please dress in work clothes, or bring them to change into.

September 28-30: ALiVE Middle School Youth Retreat at Camp Nawakwa. Return your forms to Pastor Caitlin ASAP, but no later than September 9!

October (Date to be decided): Outdoor biking/hiking activity on a Sunday afternoon

November (Date to be decided): Youth-led worship one Sunday, followed by Youth Group Lunch

December (Date to be decided): Service project and caroling.

December 8-9: WinterFest High School Youth Retreat at Spooky Nook

Attention Married Couples:

What could be better than a fall weekend in the Poconos which is designed to enrich and revitalize your marriage? Don't pass up your chance to attend the number-one-rated marriage enrichment program presented by Lutheran Marriage Encounter at the beautiful, hotel-style Spruce Lake Retreat in Canadensis, PA. The dates are September 14-16, 2018. TIME IS RUNNING OUT TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT, so to avoid being on a waiting list, register NOW!

If the September Weekend doesn't work for you, please consider road-tripping to Ludlow, PA, 2 hours north of Pittsburgh, PA, for the October 19-21, 2018 Weekend; or register for the November 9-11, 2018 Weekend at Hampton Inn Berkshires in Lenox, Massachusetts. Two nights lodging, 5 meals for each of you, and all supplies are included with your \$100 per couple registration fee, plus toward the end of the weekend you will be given an opportunity to make a confidential contribution of whatever amount you wish to help cover expenses and towards the continuation of the program. Simply go to: GodLovesMarriage.org and pay the \$100/couple registration fee with your credit card, or mark the option to mail a check. For questions, or if you would like a brochure mailed to you, contact Northeast US Directors of Lutheran Marriage Encounter, Fred & Julie Schamber, at 724-325-3166 or fjschamber@comcast.net.

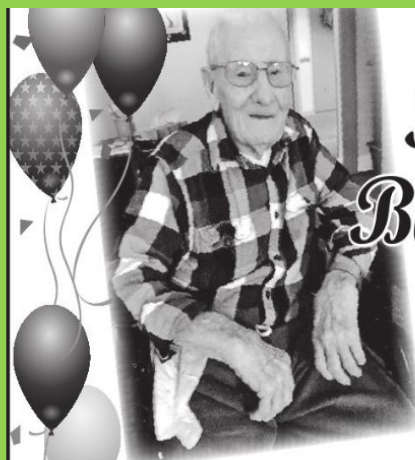


**God's Work
Our Hands**

Day of Service: Sunday, September 16 after worship

First, we'll share lunch together (made possible through a Thrivent Action Team grant. All freewill donations will be donated to Lutheran World Relief's smokeless cook stove project, which provides a clean, healthy way for folks in Nepal to prepare food. Your meal can give someone else many meals!) **Then, we'll complete a variety of service projects including:** cleaning up Swatara Creek and Market St., cutting quilt squares, putting together Lutheran World Relief School Kits, helping at JOY Pantry, painting our rental property, and making cookies baskets for First Responders. **At the end, we'll eat cake to celebrate!**

Please sign up for the project you'd like to help with on the sheets in the Gathering Area. Bring your neighbors and friends—the more the merrier!



Happy Birthday Paul

Paul M. Zimmerman celebrated his 100th birthday on August 1, 2018 with a surprise party with 40 family members in attendance.

He was married to the former Anna Lehman Zimmerman. He is survived by one daughter, Betty L. Wolfe, one son Robert P. Zimmerman. One sister Roma also survives. One son Dale and one granddaughter Sherry are deceased.

He has a 5 generation family with 5 grandchildren, 7 great grandchildren and 4 great, great grandchildren.

Paul worked at the Bethlehem Steel Plant in Lebanon for 42 years. Growing up in the Pine Grove area he was widely known for his Country Music Band and singing. For years he sang and played music on the Pottsville Radio Station along with his brother Lloyd.

He is a past President of the Retired Steelworkers Club in Lebanon and a present member of Zion Lutheran Church in Jonestown.

(Article from the August 22 Merchandiser)

Basket BASH

Sunday, September 30th

Zion's Theme Basket Bash is fast approaching! Proceeds from this year's event will be used to help pay down the renovation costs from the Social Hall project completed a couple years ago.

The Basket Bash is a huge undertaking, but can prove to be a very profitable fundraiser since everything being used in the auction is donated. Should you wish, we are still welcoming contributions of completed gift baskets (completed baskets can be put on the stage with a note and or your business card), or a donated gift card (for gas, grocery store, or restaurant). Gift cards and monetary donations can be, put in the offering plate in an envelope marked *Basket Bash*, or given to any committee member. Any consideration that you may give to our request is greatly appreciated.

NOTE: Any donation valued over \$25 will be placed on our Large prize table (tickets sold separately). Please see Deb Reiner, Steph Livingston, Kelly Rittle, or Michele McQuaide with any questions. And, Thank You to those who have already donated.



September 2018



Basket Bash!

SUNDAY	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
2 10:30 Worship	3 Labor Day	4	5	6	7	1 8 6:30 pm Koinonia
9 RALLY DAY 9:00 Pancake Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 4:00 pm Zion's Picnic @ Levitz Park, meal @ 5	10 6:30 Social Ministry mtg. 7:00 Worship & Music mtg.	11	12 5:30 Family Meal 6:15 REJOICING SPIRITS 6:45 Kings Kids/Bible Study/Jr. Choir rehearsal 7:30 Adult Choir rehearsal	13 7 PM Church Council	14	15 <div>Bulletin deadline is every Tuesday</div>
16 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship followed by Zion's DAY OF SERVICE	17 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	18	19 5:30 Family Meal 6:15 REJOICING SPIRITS 6:45 Kings Kids/Bible Study/Jr. Choir rehearsal 7:30 Adult Choir rehearsal	20 12:30 Lunch Bunch 7 pm Women's Bible Study	21	22
23 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 30 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Basket Bash	24	25 7:00 pm Christian Ed. Mtg.	26 9:00 sewing 5:30 Family Meal 6:15 REJOICING SPIRITS 6:45 Kings Kids/Bible Study/Jr. Choir rehearsal 7:30 Adult Choir rehearsal	27	28 <div>ALIVE Middle School Youth Retreat Friday, 28 to Sunday, 30</div>	29

Rally Day – Sunday, September 9

9:00 AM – 9:30 AM **Pancake Breakfast** in the Social Hall

9:30 AM – 10:10 AM **Sunday School Kick-Off**

10:30 AM **Worship**

4:00 PM – **Church Picnic** 5:00 PM meal



God's work, Our hands, Day of Service

Sunday, September 16 after worship

First, lunch, then projects for every age and ability,

Finally, cake to celebrate.

Worship Participants for September

	Lector	Crucifer	Children's sermons	Acolytes	Nursery Attendants	Counters	Prayers of the People
2	Christine Techky	Mike Johnsen	Brian Adams	Mason Livingston Nick McFarland	Nursery Staffing will resume in September, see bulletins for info	Larry & Sharon Houser	Stephanie Livingston
9	Jim Gill	Galen Kleinfelter	Terry Ludwig	Kathryn Sipe Max Clark			Elaine Ludwig
16	Dylan Houser	Brian Adams	Laurie Gill	Cassie & Ella Bortz		Darryl Bush Deb Reiner	Ed Ludwig
23	Elizabeth Kleinfelter	Daryl Hess	John Mohn Jr.	Gavin Bush Lily Harris		Deb Long Kelly Rittle	Nancy Ludwig
30	Galen Kleinfelter	Joanna Guldin-Noll	Pastor Caitlin	Madison & MacKenzie Hess		Noel Strattan	Grace Ludwig

Altar Guild	Ushers	Communion Assistants	Getting to know you time RE-VAMPED!
2, Bortz family 9,16 Dawn & Pam 23,30 Jen & Noel	Cathy Houser Larry Houser Dylan Houser Richard Hitz	2, Ed & Elaine Ludwig 9,16 Dean & Ken Hess 23 Kelly Rittle, Noel Strattan 30 Sharon & Cathy Houser	GTKYT will now be held on the intergenerational Sunday School dates: (none in Sept.) Oct. 7, Nov. 4, Dec. 2.