

Zion's News

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



Pastor Caitlin Kurtz

Dear Members and Friends of Zion's:

God's grace and peace be with you this day! Our themes for Lent will be *"God is on the Move"* (Sunday mornings) and *"What's so amazing about grace?"* (Wednesday Evening Prayer services), both of which were richly inspired by our January Council retreat.

I want to thank our Council members, and their families, for dedicating a Friday night and an entire Saturday to our work together. I also want to thank you for your openness to one another, and to the work of the Holy Spirit in our midst.

Our goal for the weekend was to discern a purpose statement for our congregation. While we have been well served for many years by the statement "Reflecting Christ, we share God's gifts", we recognize that our congregation, and community, have changed greatly since that statement was adopted, and it is time to refocus on where and how God is calling us to serve in this time and space. As we talked about the exciting ministry God is doing through our congregation, and the opportunities that lie before us, someone said "God is on the move". And we believe it's true! God gathers us into Christian community so that we can be strengthened and sent to do God's work in the world. It's exciting to witness the movement of the Spirit at Zion's, but the reality is that God, from the very beginning of time, has always been on the move. God is working to redeem and restore the broken, but beautiful, world in which is live, and God will not stop until God's Kingdom comes on earth as it is in heaven. Beginning on Ash Wednesday, and continuing throughout the Sundays of Lent, we'll hear how God moves into our lives, into the desert, past all obstacles, over the fence, down the road, [moves] us to empty ourselves, and ultimately moves to the table (Maundy Thursday), the cross (Good Friday), and out of the tomb (Easter). Importantly, we'll also hear more

about how God is on the move in our congregation, calling and equipping us to do God's work in the world.

As we worked together that weekend, our Council also discovered that while we *know God's grace is important*, we're not entirely clear on *how or why* it's so important. This gave birth to "What's so amazing about grace?" as our Wednesday Evening Prayer service theme. What is grace? Why does it matter? Where does it come from? What does it do? I hope you'll join us at 7 PM beginning on March 13 to explore these questions, and to share in thirty minutes of prayer for our world and ourselves. We'll kick off the season of Lent with a "40 Days of What?" intergenerational Lent Event on Sunday March 3 at 9:15 AM, followed by Ash Wednesday worship on March 6 at noon, 6:15 PM and 7 PM. I look forward to sharing this season of *movement* and *grace* with you.

In hope, Pastor Caitlin

**THANK YOU for all who helped with the Tag Sale.** From donating items to helping sort those items, buying food to preparing food, volunteering the day of the event to shopping at the event...your support is greatly appreciated!

A note from Mike, the event's beneficiary:

It is one thing to volunteer to aid others but when you witness this being done for yourself and your family it is an entirely different experience. Humbling, touching, and downright amazing. Absolutely impressive to witness how many people put in a ton of hard work and time. Touching to see all those that came to lend support to our family. My family and I extend a huge heartfelt thank you to everyone involved. God bless. Chair: Michele McQuaide(michelemcquaide@rocketmail.com;330-958-3399)

**All Church Lent Event** 

# 40 Days of What??

Sunday, March 3 at 9:15 AM (in the social hall)



We'll take a surprising look at stories of the Bible that feature the number 40, and what these stories tell us about God. We'll also learn about the season of Lent and create tools to observe the season at home.

**Don't Forget:** In February, everyone was challenged to learn a memory verse (from the prophets or elsewhere)—you'll have a chance to share those on March 3!

LUNCH bunch will be held March 28 @ 12:30 at the Swatara Coffee Company. When we meet, we will discuss chapter six, in Rob Bell's book, Love Wins.

Women's Bible study will meet on Thursday, March 28 @ 7:15 pm, at the home of Pastor Cait-

lin. We will be discussing chapters ten & eleven of Liz Curtis Higgs' book, The Girl's Still Got It, as well as Ruth 3:12-4:12. All are welcome!

"Wise" guys: Men's Bible study will be held on March 9 at 8:00 a.m. in Zion's social hall. All men of the congregation are invited to join us for a morning of fellowship and learning, as well as some sweet goodies!



Zion's is hiring a nursery attendant

BUNCH

for Sunday mornings. If you know of anyone who might be interested in this two hour/week position, please share the job description shown on the right, or direct them to our website where it is also available (www.zionsjonestown.com) We do not plan to hire a member of the congregation for this job, but hope you can help us spread the word. Zion's Lutheran Church in Jonestown is seeking nursery care providers for infants through early elementary students from 10 AM to noon on Sunday mornings. One nursery care provider will work each Sunday, with a volunteer from the congregation providing assistance. We hope to hire more than one provider to allow for some Sundays off. Our nursery team should provide a safe, loving, Christian environment for the children. Providers will also be responsible for making sure children are checked in and out, ensuring that they have a cell phone contact for a parent/adult in worship, and cleaning up the nursery at the end of the morning. Applicants must enjoy interacting with children, be at least 18 years old, and pass a background check.

Congregational Care Team (formerly called Social Ministry)

Chaír: Sharon Davís (<u>dsdavís11@comcast.net;</u> 865-2781)

## New Member Breakfast

**Our Congregational Care** Team hosted a breakfast for our new members and their mentors on Sunday, Feb. 24. A warm welcome is extended to Zion's newest members!



## **Jonestown Council of Churches** Women's Lenten Breakfast

A Women's Lenten breakfast sponsored by the Jonestown Council of Churches will be held on Saturday, April 6 at 9:00 am. in Zion's social hall. Cost is \$10 per adult and \$5 per child. Zion's is hosting this year's event. Look for a sign-up sheet in the gathering area.

#### **廿 MEMORIAL FUND** ሞ

In memory of Paul Zimmerman

by: Donald & Sharon Davis

#### **The Haylofters Concert** March 23 6:30-8:30 pm

Country - Gospel - Oldies- Bluegrass Fredericksburg Community Center, 125 S. Tan Alley, Fredericksburg, PA Tickets \$15 by calling 717-865-5536 or at the door. Doors open 5:30 pm. FREE refreshments! Hotdogs, BBQ, Chips, Soda Sponsored by Sattazahn Lutheran Church

## like to learn, Zion's is offering

\*If you do not know how to read music, but would



music literacy lessons. For more information, contact our choir director, Joel Guldin (717 228 8513)

## **Hospital Admissions**

Please inform the church office when you or a loved one becomes a patient in the hospital or 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.

## **Youth Group**

Leaders: Pastor Caitlin and Joanna Guldin-Noll joanna.guldin@gmail.com pastorckurtz@gmail.com

Check out our activities for the spring! Want to be added to the email list? Let Joanna Guldin-Noll know (Joanna.guldin@gmail.com, 717-865-3603)

## **Upcoming Events:**

March 3: Getting to Know You Time + Youth Group lunch and meeting after church, Details will be emailed. April TBD: Hike in Swatara State Park April 28: Earth Day Celebration @ Camp Kirchenwald, 2-6PM, \$5/person (dinner included) May 12: Youth Sunday May 25: Jonestown Block Party

COUNCIL

Next Meeting: Mar. 14, 2019

7:00 p.m.

President: Larry Houser (lhouser1@gmail.com; 717-865-6693)

## Council Highlights from February 14, 2019 meeting

- Approved new members: Mark, Collette, and Beth Rose Schindler; Nickole Madenford and Payton Noll. They will be received on February 24, together with Barb Kohr, who was previously approved.
- Received an update on the quotes for the handicap accessible door (where the "Welcome" awning is). Requested that Property select and recommend one of the quotes at our next Council meeting.
- Reflected on our January Council Retreat.
- Continued to work on our purpose statement, and began conversation about guiding principles. We expect to share the purpose statement on Easter, with the guiding principles to follow throughout the season of Easter.

Your Council members are: Larry Houser, President; Terry Ludwig, Vice President; Kelly Rittle, Secretary; Cathy Houser, Treasurer; Brian Adams; Joanna Guldin-Noll; Christine Techky; Tracy Hoy; Noel Strattan; Deb Reiner; Kerri Price; Matt Wolfe; Linda Wenrich, and Pr. Caitlin Kurtz

## Zion's Child Protection Policy:

In October 2018, our Council approved a new child protection policy. This policy describes what child abuse is and details the policies in place at Zion's to protect our children and youth, including: an open-door policy, that two adults be present whenever possible, and the process for reporting and investigating suspected child abuse. Copies of the policy are available by contacting Pastor Caitlin or Michele McQuaide (Christian Ed chair). A roster of adults who are approved to work with children and youth will be updated and posted throughout the building. If you regularly work with youth or children in our congregation and are interested in being added to the roster, we are happy to help you acquire the needed clearances.

Our new policy also describes safety provisions for when someone who is on the sexual offender registry desires to worship at Zion's: the individual may not participate in any youth or children's programs, they may only attend a predetermined service each week, they must be accompanied by another member of the congregation at all times, and the congregation needs to be made aware that a convicted sex offender is attending. Per this policy, we are hereby notifying the congregation that someone who is on the sexual offender registry occasionally worships at Zion's. Please see Pastor Caitlin or Larry Houser, Council President, with any questions.

KOINONIA CLASSMeets the 2nd Saturday of the odd months.President: Karen Hitz (rnkhitz@gmail.com, 717-272-9520)

Next Meeting: will be held on Saturday, March 9 at 12:00 noon, at Ivana's Bistro. Everyone is invited to join us, this would be an excellent time to get involved!

Hollyberry Bazaar: Looking ahead to our annual Hollyberry Bazaar on Nov. 2, 2019. Now is a great time to

think about a project you might like to do for the bazaar. These cold winter nights are the perfect time to get those ideas moving forward.



## Registration for 2019 – 2020 school year has begun!

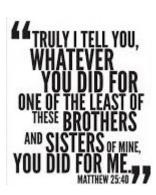
If you, or anyone you know, are interested in registering for the 2019-2020 school year, please contact Missy Ditzler at <u>zionspreschool@verizon.net</u> or 717-861-4416.

# Mission Ministry, (formerly Evangelism) Chair: Elaine Ludwig (eludadvo@comcast.net; 865-3757)

## Lebanon County Christian Ministries (LCCM) Wish List:

The clothing bank is in desperate need of NEW undergarments. Under-shirts, socks and underwear for men, women, boys and girls of all ages are needed Also needed are men's coats (size large and bigger).

Place contributions in the container marked "LCCM" in social hall.



## Jonestown Outreach pantrY (JOY) Wish List:

Noodles, Ramen, Canned Fruits, Canned Beets, Carrots, Peas, Limas, Canned Pasta, Baked Beans, Cream Soups, Vegetable Soups, Instant Potatoes, Tuna, Canned Meats, Stews, Chicken, Spam, Canned High-protein soups, Toilet Paper, Laudry Detergent.

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

Muraho Neza! (Hello!) from Hope, our Young Adult in Global Mission.

I have officially started school! After a long few months of waiting, I am now adjusting to a new routine. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday I am working at the Kageyo Government School (a public school) that serves refugee students from the large camp near our home. I am teaching English to classes of 50 or more Senior 1 students—that's basically our equivalent of 7<sup>th</sup> grade. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, I take a thirty minute moto ride to King Salomon (yes that does look a lot like 'salmon') Academy. KSA is a private primary school. All the classes are taught in English so I have been sitting in on Social Studies and Science classes and reading to students in the library. I am continuing my Saturday morning English lessons at our church too!

—- See Hope's latest newsletter on our website, in the email version of our newsletter, or on the large bulletin board in the gathering area!

#### During Lent, we will be learning about, and supporting:

Compeer of Lebanon County focuses on friendship and support for our friends and neighbors living with mental illness within three programs.

The Compeer program exists for the purpose of matching caring adults in one-to one supportive



# 11th Annual Jim Northridge **Spaghetti Miracle**

Sunday, April 28, following worship.

The Cost of the meal is a box of spaghetti or pasta and a jar or can of spaghetti sauce. This year we are also asking that you bring a can of fruit. JOY is in need of fruit or applesauce.



"Be a friend. Change a life."

friendships with people of the same gender who are recovering from a mental illness.

*CompeerCORPS* is an extension of the traditional Compeer model that is designed to serve veterans in the Lebanon community who are in mental health recovery.

*Compeer Support Services* offers facilitator led support groups in a safe, judgement free environment that encourage open discussion and support for individuals with any mental health condition.

Stay tuned to your bulletin inserts for more information!

# The Season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, on March 6.

Zion's will celebrate **Ash Wednesday** with three (3) worship services that day:

Noon: A brief spoken word service.

6:15 p.m.: Rejoicing Spirits worship

7:00 p.m.: Traditional Ash Wednesday Worship in the sanctuary.

## Mid-week Lenten Worship

Mid-week Lenten Worship will be a Evening Prayer service at 7:00 pm, in the sanctuary, beginning March 12.

This year's theme is "What's so Amazing about Grace?".

# Lent Wednesdays At Zions

5:30 pm Family Style dinners 6:15 pm Rejoicing Spirits Worship 6:45 pm Kings Kids and Youth Choir Rehearsal (in the basement throughout the season of Lent) 7:00 pm Evening Prayer in the Sanctuary 7:30 Adult Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

God is on the Move

Lent Theme on Sundays: God Moves....

Ash Wednesday, March 6 - Into our Lives March 10 - Into the Desert March 17 - Past All Obstacles March 24 - Over the Fence March 31 - Down the Road April 7 - Us to Empty Ourselves Palm & Passion Sunday, April 14 - To Jerusalem Holy Thursday, April 18 7:00PM - To the Table Good Friday, April 19 - To the Cross Easter Sunday, April 21 - Out of the Tomb





# Lenten Youth Choir:

During lent the youth choir will practice downstairs in the Sunday School wing from 6:45-7:30 pm. We will resume practice in the sanctuary after Easter. Any questions, contact Joanna Guldin-Noll (Joanna.guldin@gmail.co m, 717-228-9846)

## Zion's Koinonia Annual Shore Weekend June 14-16, 2019

We are again staying at the Roman Holiday. It is a beachfront property in North Wildwood, 6 (short) blocks north of the Boardwalk, and off Exit 6 of the Parkway. All units there are suites.

A block of rooms is <u>not</u> set aside for our group, so you must book early to guarantee a room. Some families will arrive Thursday, June 13 and leave Monday, June 17, and others will spend just the weekend.

Any families staying Thursday or Sunday Nights receive a \$15.00 discount for each night (does not include Friday or Saturday night). The discounts will be given upon check in when paying the balance.

Reservations may be made now by mailing the form, but calling the Roman Holiday directly (609) 522-3111, or e-mailing

stay@romanholidayresort.com are preferred. Currently Daniel, the General Manager, is only in the office Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 10:00 AM-4:00 PM.

There are no extra charges for additional persons –within the occupancy limit.

If you have questions, call Janet Bird 865-5636 or contact the Roman Holiday directly.

We will have our church service at 9 AM Sunday. Everyone is welcome.



\*\*\*GROUP RATES\*\*\* This group rate is only guaranteed til May 1.

\$128: 1Bedroom Efficiency (limit 6)

\$180: 2Bedroom Efficiency (limit 8)

Sales & occupancy taxes are is 13.625%.

There are <u>no</u> extra charges for additional persons –within the occupancy limit.

# Mail the reservation form and a one-night deposit to:

Roman Holiday Mote	
1000 (10 <sup>th</sup> ) JFK Boule	vard
North Wildwood, NJ	08260
Name	
Address	
City	State
Zip	
Phone	
Nights requested	
Type of room	
Adults	Children
Amount enclosed	



**Discount Hersheypark tickets orders** will be taken through March 24. Payment is not needed until the tickets are received. The group discount prices are less than offered by Giant or AAA. Plan ahead and save money. Fill out the order form and give to Janet Bird, place in her church mailbox, mail to her at P.O. Box 75, Jonestown, PA 17038, or e-mail the order to <u>jbird75@comcast.net</u> so that it is received by Sunday, March 24. The tickets are good for any one day of the 2019 park season. If questions, call Janet Bird at 865-5636.

\$32.95 All Tickets \*\*This price is only in effect until the ticket deadline.\*\*

2.55 All HERELS	This price is only in c	ficer until the ticket deduline.
Saving (\$14 for ages 3	to 8 and ages 55+)	Saving (\$36 for ages 9 to 54)

Note: Hersheypark has not yet set the price for the 70+ tickets. If you are in that age range, note it on the form. I should have that price before the ticket deadline and will let you know if the group price is better than the gate price.

Name	Total Tickets	By presenting your pre- purchased ticket you can visit
Address	_	HERSHEYPARK for 2 ½ hours
	Total \$	prior to closing FREE on the evening prior to your visit.
email		(3 ½ hours FREE when HER-
	-	SHEYPARK closes at
phone	_	11 PM.)



March 2019



SUNDAY	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
3 9:15 ALL CHURCH EVENT in the social hall Getting to know you time 10:30 Worship Youth group after worship	4	5	6 ASH WEDNESDAY Noon: Spoken word svc. 5:30 Family Meal 6:15 <b>REJOICING SPIRITS</b> 7:00 Ash Wednesday Service 7:30 Adult Choir	7	1 8	2 9 8:00 am Men's Bible Study Noon - Koinonia @ Ivana's
10 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	11	12	<ul> <li>13 5:30 Family Meal</li> <li>6:15 REJOICING SPIRITS</li> <li>6:45 Kings Kids/Youth</li> <li>Choir</li> <li>7:00 Lenten Vesper Svc.</li> <li>7:30 Adult Choir</li> </ul>	14 7 PM Church Council	15 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	16
17 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	18	19	20 5:30 Family Meal 6:15 <b>REJOICING SPIRITS</b> 6:45 Kings Kids/Youth Choir 7:00 Lenten Vesper Svc 7:30 Adult Choir	21	22	23
24 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Hersheypark Ticket Deadline 31 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	25	26	<ul> <li>27 5:30 Family Meal</li> <li>6:15 REJOICING SPIRITS</li> <li>6:45 Kings Kids/Youth</li> <li>Choir</li> <li>7:00 Lenten Vesper Svc</li> <li>7:30 Adult Choir</li> </ul>	28 12:30 Lunch Bunch @ SCC 7:15 pm Women's Bible Study @ Pastor's	29 Bulletin o is every 1	



Zion's will celebrate Ash Wednesday with 3 worship services on Wednesday, March 6:

Noon: A brief spoken word service with Holy Communion

6:15 P.M. Rejoicing Spirits Worship

7:00 P.M. Traditional Ash Wednesday Worship with Holy Communion



Worshin	Participants	s for	March
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	Lector	Crucifer	Children's sermons	Acolytes	Communion Assistants	Counters	Prayers of the People	
З	Karen	Joanna	Doctor Coitlin	Madison Hess	Deb Long	Larry &	Betty	
5	Hitz	Guldin-Noll	Pastor Caitlin	Cassie Bortz	Terry Ludwig	Sharon Houser	Kleinfelter	
10	Elaine	ZeeMenzel	Negeria	Jaxin Bush	Noel Strattan	Kerri Price	Christine	
10	Ludwig	Zoe Menzel	Nancy Ludwig	Nick McFarland	Linda Toth		Techky	
17	Linda	Madison	Christine	Mason Livingston	Noel Strattan	Deb Deiner	Dr. Richard	
17	Toth	Hess	Techky	Levi Bucks	Elaine Ludwig	Deb Reiner	Koons	
24	Cathy	Mackenzie	Treevilley	Lillyanna Harris	Joanna Guldin-	Kelly Rittle		
24	Houser	Hess	Tracy Hoy	Kathryn Sipe	Noll, John Noll	Deb Long	Long Noel Strattan	
21	Sharon	Cautin Duch	Michelle	Zoe Menzel	Joanna Guldin-		Mason	
31	Houser	Gavin Bush	Bucks	MacKenzie Hess	Noll, John Noll		Livingston	

Altar Guild	Ushers	Getting to know you time - Mar. 3
3,10 Jen Boisvert & Noel Strattan	Al Reiner, Steve Wolfe, Tom Frey,	Youth Group
17, 24 Pam Bixler, Dawn Wolfe	Joe Northridge	
31 Bucks Family		

# **TALES FROM THE HILLS**

THOUGHTS, STORIES, AND UPDATES FROM MY YEAR OF SERVICE IN RWANDA

# COMING AND GOING

A huge part of the culture in Rwanda is spending time together. Visiting each other's homes is a daily occurrence and a special treat. People come over to our house all the time. They show up at all times of the day for all different reasons. Sometimes it's a quick stop, other times they stay for hours. We've had visitors at 7 in the morning who sit in the living room while chores are being done around them and wait for tea and conversation. Pastor Caleb is a popular guy. He welcomes friends from the village, parishioners from church, and guest preachers to our home for meals and long conversations.



A photo from Stephen's first visit to Gicumbi, taken after church on Sunday. From left to right: Namara, Stephen, Jonathan, Luka (our guest preacher, who is only 20 years old), Haleluya, Hope, Joshua, Pastor Caleb, Mama Haleluya.

I have also been welcomed to many homes in Kageyo for lunch, tea, or dinner! One of my favorite parts about serving in Rwanda is the proximity to my fellow volunteers. The past two months have brought *me* many visitors as well! Three out of the six YAGM spent some time in Gicumbi with my zany host family.



Some of the better pictures from out bus stop photo shoot! Both of these pictures feature: Jonathan, Hope, Haleluya, Joshua, Claire, and Mariah. The one on the right features my host-cousin Rehema!



Christmas brought Stephen to Kageyo. Most of our cohort spent Christmas Eve in Kigali and from there, Stephen and I caught a bus up north. He's visited my family once before, so they were ecstatic to dance and laugh more with Stephen. (We taught everyone some popular line dances; The Macarena is a crowd favorite!). The day after Christmas, Claire trekked up to the Gicumbi District to spend a few days here. Her Uno cards and Phase 10 game were huge hits! We also took a few too many selfies while waiting for the bus back to Kigali. Mariah came up from Rwamagana just before New Year's, for the fresh northern air and LOTS of laughter! She blew my host family away with her Kinyarwanda and her arm-wrestling skills. Claire, Mariah, and I went on a nice long walk/mini hike, chatting with neighbors along the way and narrowly missing a rainstorm.

Stephen and I cooked together on my family's new gas stove. Pasta with tomato sauce, garlic bread on the side—Claire came in clutch bringing up butter from Kigali.

Stephen, Claire, and I spent New Year's Eve with Janelle in Kigali. We ate some delicious Tanzanian rice, had a dance party, and played hearts for hours. It was a joyous visit. A few days after that, our entire cohort met up in Kigali for some Kinyarwanda review, our secret Santa exchange, and most importantly welcoming Dan to Rwanda! Dan is the YAGM program's new director who came to Rwanda to see what YAGM are up to in Rwanda. After a few days in the capital city, Dan and Janelle stopped by almost all of our site placements to see the volunteers in their communities. On his visit to Kageyo, Pastor



Group shot! Claire came up to Gicumbi for a day visit the week before Christmas with leadership in the Lutheran Church of Rwanda. Pastor Prince is the general secretary and Rogero is the treasurer. (White shirt and blue shirt in the middle, respectively)

Caleb took us for a long walk through the terraces to check out the church's agriculture project. We visited the land our church is hoping to buy and build a permanent building on in the next few years.

I am looking forward to the next few months of visiting. I have plans to visit everyone in their placements before the year is over, to meet their people and learn more about each of their experiences. And my cohort knows that the door is always open for them in Kageyo—Pastor Caleb has told me multiple times that his dream is to have all of the volunteers stay in his home for a week. We'll see...



On our walk around Kageyo, someone pointed to a eucalyptus tree. Jonathan ripped an entire branch off for us to smell, which we did. We also ate some (not a great idea) and stuffed some in our noses while we walked (a great idea!) Left to right: Dan, Janelle, Hope, Jonathan

# A NOTE FROM JOSHUA 😂

#### Hello!

My name is Joshua. I am in Senior 5 and study construction. My dream is to be a civil engineer. I know, with God's help I can achieve it. I love to play basketball. My favorite player is LeBron James. I want to be like him in basketball.

I am so happy for being with Hope. I love her and she is a great sister. My wish is to be with her all the time. I'm already sad to think she will leave us. I am curious to meet Hope's family and friends. My family already loves them. We love to meet with the other volunteers when they come to visit Hope. I wish to have all the YAGM in our house together for a visit.

Thank you so much. I would love to meet with you all in your church someday.

Uwumugisha Josue (Joshua)



With Hope at the wedding of my uncle in Byumba. We had a hilarious time with Hope. (We also took over 50 pictures together, ate a pretty delicious cake, and danced our butts off! –Hope)



Clearing out the pea fields with primary 3, 4, 5, and 6 during Saturday morning teaching at church. We honestly had a blast and I got sunburned. Teaching, laughing, and working with these kids is the highlight of my week.

# THANK YOU.

I would like to send a BIG thank you to you all. The past few months have been a roller coaster ride with ups and downs. The emails, letters, and packages you have sent rejuvenate me when I'm feeling blue. I am so incredibly thankful and humbled by your out pouring of support. Shout out to my friends at the Sellersville Theater who keep checking in on me—y'all rock! A special thanks to the churches and congregations who hold me in prayer every day-- Trinity Lutheran Church, Perkasie, PA; Trinity Lutheran Church, Lansdale, PA; Zion's Lutheran, Jonestown, PA; Redeemer Lutheran Church, Jameson, PA; and the South East Minnesota Synod.

With lots of love and big hugs, Hope

> If you want to read more stories about my life in Rwanda, my blog: <u>https://hopeinrwanda.com/</u> If you want to contribute to my year of service, my donor page: <u>http://support.elca.org/site/TR?px=1053694&fr\_id=1181&pg=personal</u>