



Zion's News



May 2019

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

Pastor Caitlin Kurtz

Dear Members and Friends of Zion's:

Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia! God's grace and peace be with you this Eastertide day.

A few weeks ago, I was at Jonestown Elementary school volunteering with the Power Packs program (new this year, an initiative that sends ingredients and a recipe for one health, supper meal, as well as some snacks, home with children in need each Thursday). As we started to roll the packed bags down the hallway, one of Zion's youngsters stopped me in the hallway: "Pastor Caitlin, I have a question for you." "Sure, what's that?" "Who created God?" You know, just a simple question in the hallway on a Thursday afternoon!

I answered that question to the best of my ability, and we continued down the hallway. Fifty yards later, another Zion's child called out "Pastor Caitlin! I'm getting baptized after Lent!" "Oh yeah?", I asked (for this was the first time I had heard of this scheduling note...though we had talked about the possibility of baptism for quite some time). "What's baptism?" that child's friend asked her. "It's when you become a child of God, and it's what you do before you can have communion", she replied. "Wow", I thought as I promised we'd talk with her parents soon about scheduling that baptism.

When another family arrived for Good Friday worship, the mom told me that her four year old had been dancing around the house around 3 PM that afternoon (which scripture tells us is that time that Jesus died), singing "Jesus is dead! Jesus is dead!" When she asked him why he was *happy* about that, he simply replied "Because He's coming back alive on Sunday, mom!" with a bit of a sense of "Why don't you know that?!"

As I led the communion liturgy during Easter Dawn worship yesterday morning, I looked out to see another one of our children with her hands in the air, modeling the *orans* posture used during Holy Communion, and mouthing the Words of Institution.

"And a child shall lead them" (Isaiah 11:6). Stories like these bring me so much joy, and instill quite a bit of hope. The children that God has entrusted to our care at Zion's *get it*. The welcome they receive in worship, the stories they learn in Sunday school, the songs they learn in choir, the lessons they hear in children's sermons, the ways they participate in Rejoicing Spirits...all of these experiences help to form them in faith, and, in turn, allow them to *teach and inspire adults* in our faith, too.

On Sunday, May 12, the children and youth of Zion's will once again lead us in worship. In planning for this biannual event, our young people get the opportunity to really study worship, examining and questioning why we do what we do, and sometimes exploring how we might do worship a little differently. They get to share the gifts of faith and song and leadership that God has given to them and, importantly, they get to "try on" what it is like to serve the church in a public leadership role. In addition to raising up engaged, faithful lay people, it is always my hope that we might also raise up women and men for pastoral and diaconal rostered ministry, ensuring that the Church's needs for public leaders will be met for generations to come.

Please plan to join us for worship on May 12 as we hear the Gospel through the eyes and ears and words of children and youth, bear witness to the work of God in their lives and offer encouragement for their courageous and faith filled leadership. There will also be a spectacular combined adult and youth choir that day. See you then.

In Christ,

Pastor Caitlin

 Youth
Sunday
May 12

Christian Education

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



I am the Church
You are the Church
We are the Church
Together



"I am the church, you are the church, we are the church together"

Last All Church for the year is May 19. We'll look at the year in review.

May 19 is also the final week of Sunday School. Sunday School will go on hiatus for the summer. We'll resume weekly Sunday School in the fall.

We are always looking for volunteers to share their gifts with the children of our congregation. If you have an interest in "spreading the word" and would like to serve as a Teacher or helper, please see Michele McQuaide for details!

"Wise" guys: Men's Bible study will be held on May 11 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!



**LUNCH
BUNCH**

Lunch bunch will be held Thursday, May 16 @ 12:30 at the Swatara Coffee Company. When we meet.

Women's Bible study will meet on Thursday, May 16 @ 7:15 pm. All are welcome!



Worship

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

Youth Sunday, May 12: The youth of Zion' will be leading the 10:30 worship on Sunday, May 12. We hope you can be there to receive the gifts they have to offer, support them as they learn to be worship leaders, and to encourage them as together we worship God and deepen our walk with Christ.

Confirmation Sunday, June 9: Join us as our youth confirm their faith.

Christian Education

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

SAVE THE DATE: Day Camp at Zion's Lutheran in Jonestown

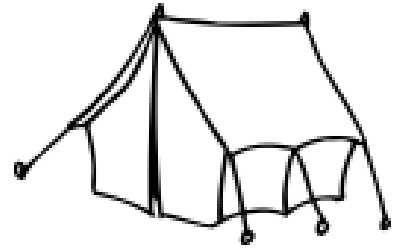
July 15-19, 9-3:30 PM

For kids who have completed
kindergarten-5th grade

Registration forms for Day Camp and VBS will be available on our website in the coming days.

You can also pick them up in the gathering area at church in the near future!

It's time to start thinking about summer camp at Camps Kirchenwald and Nawakwa. There's something for all ages,



and Zion's offers scholarships that help make camp possible for everyone! Scholarship forms must be completed and returned to the Church Office by May 1, 2019, together with a copy of your camp registration form. Incomplete or late applications may not be considered. **Zion's will provide a scholarship for one camping experience per child per summer. Scholarship forms can be picked up alongside the Camp Brochures in the Gathering Area or on our website.**

If you have any questions or concerns, please see Pastor Caitlin. Scholarship Forms, and a link to the Camp Brochure, are also available at www.ZionsJonestown.com



SAVE
THE
DATE:

Joint Vacation Bible School with Jonestown UMC
Sunday June 16- Thursday June 20 from 6 - 8:30 PM
Theme: THE GREAT ESCAPE

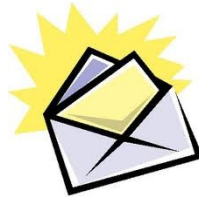
Congregational Care Team (formerly called Social Ministry)

Chair: Sharon Davis (dsvdavis11@comcast.net; 865-2781)

Homebound Birthday Celebrants

(cards, calls, visits)

Grace Dennis ph: 717-865-4660
20 S. Lancaster St. Birthday: May 17
P.O. Box 316
Jonestown, PA 17038



Elvena Mohn ph: 717-865-2590
37 N. King St. Birthday: May 27
P.O. Box 212
Jonestown, PA 17038

KOINONIA CLASS

Meets the 2nd Saturday of the odd months.

President: Karen Hitz (rnkhitz@gmail.com, 717-272-9520)

Next Meeting: will be held on Saturday, May 11 at noon at Ivana's Bistro.

Activity: Koinonia will host Zion's Annual Trip to the seashore on June 14-16. A church service will be held on the deck of the Roman Holiday in North Wildwood on Sunday, June 16 at 9:00 am. Contact Janet Bird (717-865-5636) or jbird75@comcast.net if you have questions.

Service: Mother's Day gifts will be given at the church service on Sunday, May 12 by the Koinonia group.

Youth Group

Leaders: Pastor Caitlin and Joanna Guldin-Noll
pastorckurtz@gmail.com joanna.guldin@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: May 12: Youth Sunday May 25: Jonestown Block Party

Rejoicing  Spirits

Wednesday's At Zions

Our final weekly Wednesday's at Zions will be May 22. Join us for our annual cookout!!!

During the summer, we will meet for Rejoicing Spirits Worship and ice cream in Zion's social hall on: June 12 & 26, July 10 & 24, and August 7 & 21.

† **MEMORIAL FUND** †

An anonymous donation was made to the Memorial fund.



The June and July Newsletter will be combined. Please have all pertinent information to the church office by May 17! Thank you.



COUNCIL

Next Meeting: May 9, 2019

6:00 p.m.

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

Council Highlights from April 11, 2019 meeting

- Received from finance the 2017 and 2018 completed and successful audits of the cemetery, general fund, and rental property.
- Updated Council liaison list for committees
- Received the update that as of 4/7/2019, \$1880 had been collected towards the installation of the handicap-accessible door. The contractor is scheduled to start work on this project at the end of April.
- Discussed ongoing problems with our fire alarm system (triggering false alarms), particularly in the basement. An inspection of the entire system is scheduled for April 29.
- Approved Zion's Social Hall and main floor being used as a rain site for "Summerfest" on Saturday June 1.

(NOTE: Council will begin at 6 PM on Thursday, May 9 to allow time for Confirmation students to share their final projects)

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

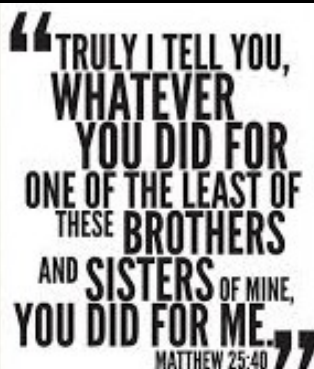
Mission Ministry, (formerly Evangelism)

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, Canned Fruits, Canned Limas, Canned Pasta, Baked Beans, Vegetable Soup, Canned Meats, Stews, Spam, Toilet Paper, Laundry Detergent, Diapers sz. 4&5.

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



4th Annual DDS Dance at Zion's

Saturday, May 11, 4-7 p.m.

Theme: Masquerade Party

Festive food and drinks will be served.

Entertainment by DJ Doug Allen

Cost: \$ 3.00 – Everyone is invited!

Sign up in the Gathering Area!

TALES FROM THE HILLS - Is the newsletter from our sponsored Young Adult In Global Mission, Hope. She shares her thoughts, stories, and updates from her year of service in Rwanda. If you are receiving this email, her newsletter is attached, if not, you see a copy on our large bulletin board in the gathering area!

**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 not 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 no extra charges for additional persons –within the occupancy limit.

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

Roman Holiday Motel
1000 (10th) JFK Boulevard
North Wildwood, NJ 08260

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

Nights requested _____

Type of room _____

Adults _____ Children _____

Amount enclosed _____

As of now (3-18-19) all the rooms at the Roman Holiday are fully booked.

The hotel rooms are owned like timeshares so there is a chance some owners may still put their room into a rental status that weekend.

Since our group is given a special rate, not all owners agree to rent for our rate.

If you want to reserve a room for the weekend, it still is a good idea to call the hotel to see if they have an opening. If not see if you can be put on a waiting list or ask Daniel, the hotel manager, to recommend a nearby hotel.

The reservation lines will be available Monday through Friday from 9 am to 5 pm.

People who stay elsewhere in the Wildwood area are still welcome to come to the Roman Holiday.

However, you will not be able to park at the hotel, since they have no extra spots.

If you have questions contact Janet Bird at jbird75@comcast.net.

Thank you to everyone who supported Compeer during Lent with games, craft supplies, and change jars!

Thank-you to our Zion's family for all of the cards and well-wishes, as we celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary on March 29. We are truly blessed!

-Don and Sharon Davis



I would like to thank Mrs. Fortna for her visit. And to my church family. Many thanks for the Easter Lily.—Ingrid Erb

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.



May 2019

*Happy
Mother's Day*

SUNDAY	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	Bulletin deadline is every Tuesday		1 5:30 Family Meal 6:15 REJOICING SPIRITS 6:45 Bible study/Kings kids/Youth choir 7:30 Adult choir	2	3	4
5 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	6	7	8 5:30 Family Meal 6:15 REJOICING SPIRITS 6:45 Bible study/Kings kids/Youth choir 7:30 Adult choir	9 6:00 pm Council	10	11 8:00 am Men's Bible study 9:30 Communion Class Noon-Koinonia meeting 4:00 pm DDS dance
12 MOTHER'S DAY 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship: Youth Sunday!	13	14 7:00 pm Mission Ministry mtg.	15 5:30 Family Meal 6:15 REJOICING SPIRITS 6:45 Bible study/Kings kids/Youth choir 7:30 Adult choir	16 12:30 pm Lunch bunch 7:15 pm Women's Bible Study	17 June & July Newsletter Deadline! 18	
19 9:15 ALL CHURCH Getting to know you time 10:30 Worship	20	21	22 5:30 Family Meal 6:15 REJOICING SPIRITS 6:45 Bible study/Kings kids/Youth choir 7:30 Adult choir	23	24	25
26 Sunday School on hiatus 10:30 Worship	27	28	29 9:00 am sewing	30	31	



Save the SUMMER dates:

- June 9: Confirmation Sunday
- June 14-16: Zion's Beach weekend
- June 16-20: Vacation Bible School
- July 15-19: Day Camp at Zions

The June and July Newsletter will be combined. Please have all pertinent information to the church office by May 17! Thank you.

Worship Participants for May

	Lectors	Crucifer	Acolytes	Counters	Children's Sermon	Communion Assts.	Prayers of the People
5	Barb Kohr	Madison Hess	Zoe Menzel Madison Hess	Larry & Sharon Houser	Terry Ludwig	Dean Hess, Zoe Menzel	Grace Ludwig
12	← Youth Sunday! Zion's youth will lead our worship →						
19	Lynda Myers	Gavin Bush	Xander McQuaide Logan Livingston	Deb Reiner	John Mohn Jr.	Cathy & Sharon Houser	Deb Reiner
26	Allan Schell	Brian Adams	Lilyanna Harris Kathryn Sipe	Kelly Rittle Deb Long	Linda Toth	Kelly Rittle Linda Wenrich	Barb Kohr

Ushers Jack Beidler, Darryl Bush, Gavin Bender, John Mohn Jr.	Altar Guild 5, 12 -Bucks Family 19,26-Jen Boisvert & Noel Strattan	Getting to know you time May 19 - Worship & Music Committee
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TALES FROM THE HILLS

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

TEACHER HOPE

As you all know from my last email, I finally got set up with a regular schedule here in Kageyo. I work half days at two schools that could not be more different.

G.S. KAGEYO

I walk to school at 7:30 on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Located just down the road (and down a steep hill) the Kageyo Government School is one of the two free public schools in the village. Unlike any school I've been in back home, but typical for

those in Rwanda, this is school is open air. Buildings which house classrooms are spread out all over the campus, but there are no hallways connecting them. Students stay in the same classroom most of the day and the teachers are the ones who move between the rooms. Teachers' home base is a staff room, where there are over 50 desks where teachers can prepare lessons, mark exams, and take a break. GS Kageyo is a secondary school and a primary school. I work in the secondary level with 60 other teachers—this school is huge. Each level has between 6 and 10 sections. I work with senior one students, our equivalent to 7th grade. I see 6 out of the 7 sections of senior one in a week. Each section is made up of around 50-60 students. So if you do the math, GS Kageyo has around 350 senior one students and over 2,000 students. Most of my kiddos live in the Gihembe (Ghee-hem-bay) Refugee Camp not far from my house or school. A lot of (DRC), but the school has new students enroll who have just arrived in Rwanda often.

As you can imagine, classroom management of 60 adolescents is difficult. A lot of other teachers bring a stick to class and give the students a whack when they are not behaving—something I refuse to do and discuss with teachers almost daily. It has not been easy to teach students English when there are at radically different levels of ability and previous knowledge. Resources at the school are scarce. I use one student work



Here I am teaching my senior ones at GS Kageyo. On this day we were talking about nouns; countable nouns like people, desks, books, pineapples and non-countable nouns like water, air, sand, and salt. We learned about when to use much, many, any, some and a few others

book, a few pieces of chalk, and the blackboard every day for instruction. The students have a blank notebook and a pen. We make do, but it could not be more different from teaching in the states with access to computers, projectors, libraries, extra books, crafting materials, the list could go on.



Pictured here is my favorite class, Senior One C. They are sweethearts. I am lucky to teach them Monday, Wednesday and Friday—all the hours they have English for the week. These students are huge fans of Simon Says and Pictionary games!

KING SALOMON ACADEMY (KSA)

On Tuesdays and Thursdays I take a 30 minute motorcycle ride through Byumba (Bee-yoom-bah) to King Salomon Primary School. The Anglican church has a very strong presence in the Gicumbi District and KSA is one of the churches private schools. Radically different from GS Kageyo, KSA has very small class sizes and only one section of each level. There are around 25 students in each class from Primary 1-6 and there are only 6 full time teachers.

Most of the work I do at King Salomon is hanging out with students and assisting teachers. I arrive during lunch time.



This is William reading a book to students in the library. The drawings decorating the wall are pieces the students have drawn throughout the year. The shelves on the left side of the photo are teacher resources and games. The ones in the middle-right are books for the students to read and check out.

I sit with the staff and chat while we share our meal. After the students eat lunch, they have time to play outside. I love jumping rope and throwing tennis balls around with these cute kiddos. The past three months there have been two other volunteers from the US working at KSA. William and Wanda are a retired couple from Idaho. Their church is a sponsor and partner with King Salomon, and they send a volunteer almost every year. William and I sit in the library during recess. Sometimes we read to students, sometimes students read to us, other times I draw pictures or work on puzzles with kids. The library is a great resource for the school. Students are allowed to check out books and read them at home. There are teacher resources and art supplies that past visitors have donated to the school. Once the students start class in the afternoon, I am left to reorganize the library—no small feat! I've helped sort books into levels for different readers, which they still have not figured out how to put back on the correct shelf. The rest of my day at KSA is typing exams or worksheets for teachers, grading homework or quizzes, and making charts or posters for the teachers to use in lessons.



This is what the bookshelves can look like after library time. The books are well loved, but the kids need some pointers on putting them back on the shelf! I have a few eager volunteers who help me organize before class.

NEW NEIGHBOR

Most Rwandans are not fans of dogs and only keep them around to guard their houses. In my neighborhood, dogs run loose at night. They will all start howling late at night, I like to think it's a twilight bark like in 101 Dalmatians. Anyway, our neighbor just got a new puppy! Most of



the time he is kept in their house compound, but one day I heard him crying outside my window. He wandered through our gate and we've been best friends ever since. Like many dogs, he loves chicken and belly rubs. I am trying to teach him to sit, using Kinyarwanda commands...we'll see!



EMMA AND SYDNEY TAKE RWANDA!

I was blessed to be able to introduce my sister and best friend to my host family, friends, and this amazing country. We jam packed a week with church, home visits, school, museums, market trips, and a safari. It was a whirlwind adventure with so much laughter. My heart is still overflowing from that week.



Above: Lunching with the zebras in Akagera National Park. We saw a herd of over 30 Elephants, were charged by a hippo, and saw more baboons than anything else! An awesome day.

Right: Pastor, Emma, Sydney, Hope, Anna, Mama Haleluya, Gad after breakfast at Anna's house in the SOS Children's village.



SPRING RETREAT

The volunteers got together for our spring retreat in mid-March. We headed north from Kigali to Muzanze. We spent a few days in the shadows of the volcanoes. There are six volcanoes close to the boarder between Rwanda and the DRC that tower of the rolling hills. We stayed at a nice hostel where we were able to hike, weave baskets, and meet lots of interesting people. We also spent time at Lake Kivu in Kibuye. We swam and took a boat tour. Each day of retreat we had a bible study and discussed Liberation in praxis. It was a wonderful week of adventure, relaxing, and sharing.



Here are two of the volcanoes—Sabyinyo and Muhabura. I took this photo out the back window of the truck Janelle bravely drove on the winding mountain roads.

PS: Khadijah made and awesome video of retreat: <https://youtu.be/n3-LCBYKU-Q>



Left: Basket weaving! Red rocks, the hostel we stayed in while in Musanze, offered cultural experiences and activities. Claire, Janelle, Khadijah and I spent the morning learning how to craft traditional Rwanda baskets. After an hour or so, we all complained about our hands and fingers being sore and our teachers laughed at us—they're pros.

A PLACE TO WORSHIP

We officially have a church! Pastor Caleb, Bishop Mgabo, General Secretary Pastor Prince, and Treasurer David Rogero purchased a home and land for the Kageyo Parish with the help of generous partners from the US. There is a lot of work that needs to be done to get the building ready for weekly worship. Pastor Caleb's friend moved from Kageyo to Kigali and was selling their beautiful home, the surrounding land, and their old chicken houses. The building that will be gutted, cleaned, and tiled is a large chicken house that was built but stood empty. Pastor has made sketches of the project and plans to start construction soon. The home on the property will be used as a guest house and meeting place for the congregation. We are all overjoyed!



Above is most of our congregation gathering Sunday morning in our new space. We danced and sang. Gad, our evangelist (top left), shared the construction plans. It might not look like much now, but with Pastor Caleb's determination and the congregation's enthusiasm, this place will be a stunning place of worship.

Right: This is my friend Innocent, we teach together in the church on Saturdays. He is with the children's choir here practicing for Sunday worship. They are sitting in the yard of the house near the church.

Below Left: Theophil, an elder and active member at church, and I giving thumbs up for our congregation's new place. Big smiles were the theme of the day when church members got to see the property for the first time!

Below Right: Some girls and I posting on the front porch of the house.



With lots of love and big hugs,
Hope

If you want to read more stories about my life in Rwanda, my blog: <https://hopeinrwanda.com/>

If you want to contribute to my year of service, my donor page:
http://support.elca.org/site/TR?px=1053694&fr_id=1181&pg=personal