ZION NEWS October 2024



A Message from Anita Reck, COE President

Genesis 28:20-22 Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat and clothing to wear, so that I come again to my father's house in peace, then the Lord shall be my God, and this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God's house. And of all that you give me I will give a full tenth to you."

Zion has returned to our fall Sunday schedule: 9:00 AM worship,10:15 AM **ConnectFor**, and 10:30 AM confirmation, high school and adult classes. As we look forward to next year, the Finance Committee and the Council of Elders (COE) are starting to work on the 2025 budget.

Zion has many "fixed" expenses, such as utilities, office supplies, property maintenance, and staff salaries. There are also ministries' expenses which vary depending on the programs and events each ministry plans.

Your offerings support Zion's missions and ministries and assure the "fixed" expenses are paid so that we can worship and give glory to God. The COE and Finance Committee are working to prepare a realistic balanced budget for 2025. To assist in preparing this budget, we are asking Zion's members to thoughtfully pray about what they are able to tithe in 2025. Following prayer, please complete and return the 2025 pledge cards which will be distributed. Pledges help the COE determine the expected income which, in turn, impacts the budgeted expenditures.

If there are suggestions or ideas for events or programs you would like to see in 2025 which impact the budget, please email <u>president@zlcbrentwood.org</u> or call the church office.

2 Corinthians 9:7 "Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

NOTE: See page 2 for Pastor Mathew's Message



Who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began. Z Timothy 1:9

> OUR MISSION: WHY WE EXIST To bring people into a covenantal relationship with the Lord (Matthew 28:19-20), and to equip them for personal growth and impact. Ephesians 4:11-26

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR MATHEW

Last month's worship focused a lot on connection. Connection with God and neighbor for the sake of faith, family, fellowship, and fun. I want to carry that forward this month to share a way that we can honor that connecting time whether you live in a large family, on your own, in a busy family, or one that is just not sure about what to do in order to bring faith formation into the home.

The **Faith5** connects church to home, faith to life, and families to each other in a powerful way. I would love for this to be incorporated into the life of this congregation. I hope to see it a practice during Bible studies, meetings, and most importantly IN YOUR HOME! All you need are the five steps in the process and the bulletin from worship. You can do this with your family at the dinner table, before bed, or in the car. You can do this over the phone with a friend. You can even go through this practice on your own.



Step One: Share highs and lows. Name something good and bad you experienced today. Can't think of a personal one? Check out the headlines from the news.



Step Two: Read a verse from your Bible. Use the bulletin for this. Consider the reading that was preached on or another reading that spoke to you. Read all or just a portion of it.



Step Three: Talk about it. What does the reading you just read mean to you? How might it relate to where you are today in your highs and lows?



Step Four: Pray for one another's highs and lows, for your family, and for the world. Simply talk to God, thank Jesus for the good, and ask the Holy Spirit for guidance in specific problems.



Step Five: Bless one another. You can use your hands to sign the cross in front of each other or you can trace the sign of the cross on one another's forehead or palm as a reminder that you belong to God and to one another. Consider these sample blessings, "You have been blessed by the sign of the cross" "Jesus loves you" or "Remember that you are a child of God."

This simple practice can take as little or as much time as you would like. Some days there might be more to talk about but on others there may not be so much. The more you make this a practice in your life, the more comfortable it will feel as you connect with God and with neighbor.

God's peace, Pastor Mathew

In Our Prayers

Marilyn & David Detwiler Mary Ann Dunlap Corey Fischer David Glenn Casey Hirsh Family of Paul Kriner George Langford John Reed Glenn Ribblett Suzanne Roberts George Schubert Sara Smerkar Betty Williams

OCTOBER BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

Joshua Sartory Abigail Pierce Jayden Cleaver **Charles Eperthener** Stella Koeppl Emma Mainarich Reed Sopko Jonathan Rankin Dylan Bedont Molly Hoffman Kara Luy Alex Mainarich James Mainarich Noah Pierce Quinten Runevitch Brandon Strvcula

October 8, 2006 October 9, 2016 October 11, 2015 October 11, 2015 October 11, 2020 October 11, 2009 October 11, 2015 October 17, 2021 October 18, 2015 October 27, 2019 October 28, 2012 October 28, 2012 October 28, 2012 October 28, 2018 October 30, 2022 October 30, 2011

*If we are missing your child's baptism date, please advise the church office.

Fall Worship

Saturday 5 PM Sunday 9 AM

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING October 13, 2024 Following Worship

Please mark your calendar for this meeting. There will be a vote on the adoption of Zion's newly revised By-Laws and Constitution.

> SAVE the DATE Zion's 225th Anniversary Celebration 8/24/2025

MEN'S RETREAT November 1-3

St. Paul's Lutheran in West Falls, NY is hosting a men's retreat at the YMCA Watson Woods in Painted Post New York. The theme is "Four Men and One Truth: Keeping the Main Things the Main Things". If you are interested in 2-days of biblical study, worship and crazy fun with the guys, see Pastor Mathew for more information.

Zion Quilters Make 100 Backpacks for Lutheran World Relief



Thanks to the Zion Quilters! Many children around the world cannot go to school unless they provide their own school supplies. The quilters' prayers are that Zion members will provide supplies to fill these backpacks. The following supplies are needed:

- + Monetary donation to buy bulk supplies as possible Mark donation envelope Quilter School Kits}.
- + 70/80-page notebooks
- + Unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- + Ballpoint pens (blue or black ink no gel)
- + Blunt scissors
- + 30 centimeter/12 inch rulers
- + Pencil sharpener
- 2 1/2 inch eraser
- + 24 count box of crayons



THANK YOU!

FALL CLEAN-UP

Saturday, November 9, 9 AM-12N Please join us for this clean-up event. Many hands make light work!

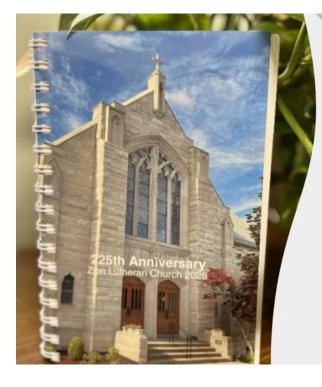


COMMUNITY CLOTHES EXCHANGE

The September Community Clothes Exchange hosted by Zion provided **98** families with Fall/Winter clothing. Thanks to the Zion members who donated new under garments and/or assisted with the Exchange.

The next event will be on November 23rd from 10 AM to 2 PM.





225th Anniversary Cookbook

- Cost: \$20
- Deadline to order: October 31st
- Please submit: Order form and Payment



AMEN TO ACTION

Zion has reserved 25 spots for the "Amen to Action" event on Saturday, November 23rd from 8:30 a.m. -12:00 p.m. at Christ Church (UMC), 44 Highland Rd, Bethel Park, PA 15102. If you are interested in helping pack food for your neighbors who are food insecure, please call Zion's church office. No need to register for the event personally. Please dress comfortably and plan to arrive by approximately 8:15 a.m. for a brief volunteer gathering.

See the website below for a recap video of Amen to Action 2023. In 2023, over 1 million meals were packed for our neighbors in 11 locations. https://plf.org/a2a/

MID NORTHEAST MISSION DISTRICT CONVOCATION

October 19th (Registration begins at 8:15 AM and event ends at 3:30 PM) St. John's Lutheran Church, 215 N. Jefferson St, Kittanning, PA 16201

You are welcome to attend the Mid Northeast District Convocation for worship, holy communion, and keynote speaker Pastor Brad Hales. Lunch is included. Contact the church office if you would like to attend.



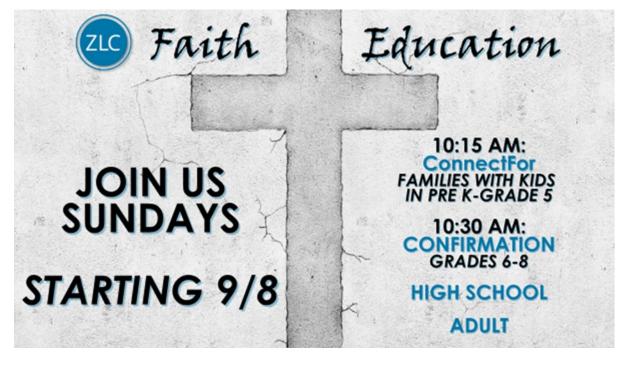
Wednesday October 23, 2024 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM Zion Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall

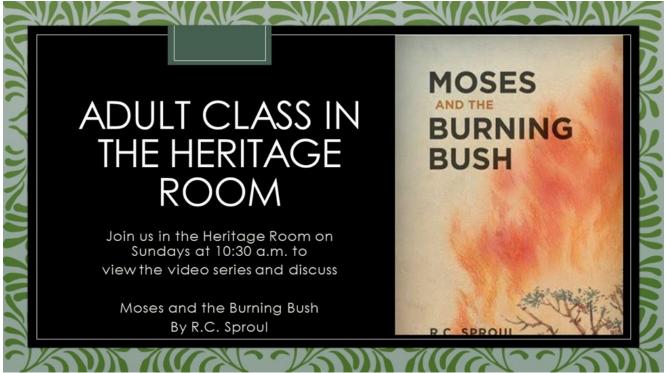
In an emergency, minutes matter. You never know when you might find yourself at the scene of an accident, cardiac arrest, overdose, or other crisis situation. From calling 911 – and knowing what to say – to clearing a path for emergency professionals, even the most basic knowledge and medical care can save lives and improve outcomes.

Scan the QR code with your cell phone camera to register for the class.



Or you can call the Zion Lutheran Church office to register (412) 881-5512





If you are interested in small group bible study, see Zion's website.

Jesus answered, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" Matthew 4:4

Multigenerational NALC Disaster Response Packing Event

Over 60 people of all ages packed 180 elementary school kits inside backpacks on Sunday September 29. These kits will soon be on their way to help students facing a disaster. Most likely they will be going to victims of Hurricane Helene which has recently caused much destruction across Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, South Carolina, & North Carolina. NALC Disaster Response is already responding in multiple locations and the need is great. **Thanks to all who joined us to be the hands and feet of Jesus**.

