



ZION

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
DAUPHIN PA 17018

July/August 2024

Newsletter

WORSHIP: 9:15 am

Update from Church Council



This monthly update from Council shares highlights of the most recent Council meeting to keep the congregation informed of things happening around Zion Church.

The July meeting of Church Council was held July 11.

In the pulpit: Even if you are not a strong believer in Divine Intervention, you have got to admit that the Lord has been looking out for Zion Lutheran in Dauphin. Shortly after Pastor Nicole left for her new call, we were blessed with the services of Pastor Fischer – who knew all our names within two weeks! When he moved on, we connected with Pastor Glenn Ludwig, who may say he is retired, but still has plenty of juice in his ministerial tank!

Not long ago I was stopped at the intersection of 32nd Street and Trindle Road in Camp Hill. The school crossing guard raised her sign, and the modern-day Good Shepherd guided her flock safely across the busy street. AND NOW, we are blessed with Deacon Chelle Huth (once a Dauphin Girl herself) leading us in worship through September! You can't say she is really "in the pulpit," since her preference is to speak directly to us from the floor. We have truly been blessed and continue to enjoy God's blessings during our time of transition.

In the future: As explained fully during the congregational informational meeting held July 14th, based on input from Pastor Fischer, and Pastor Ludwig, and the Synod, the Church Council and the Call Committee are modifying the primary direction of our Call process. The scarcity of full-time pastors available to be called, coupled with our current size, needs, and resources, has caused us to alter the direction of our Call process. We will be focusing on finding a "ministry partner" – another congregation with similar needs and limitations – with whom we can partner to share a pastor.

On Council's "want list":

- Reinvigorated church committees
- More money counters
- Additional "hospitality hour" sponsors and workers
- A part-time office administrator – approximately 12 hours per week

- **Financial Reports:**

	Jan-May	June	Year 2024
Receipts	\$90,675.17	\$24,217.49*	\$114,892.66
Less: Expenditures	\$69,207.47	\$15,387.58	\$84,595.05
Excess or (Deficit) - Receipts Over Expenses	\$21,467.70	\$ 8,829.91	\$30,297.61

*May and June: \$10,000 Elsie and Sonia’s Kitchen dinners contribution

Total Funds: \$ 276,582.34
 Obligated Funds: \$ 106,057.39
 Available Funds: \$ 170,524.95

The financial records of the congregation were recently reviewed by the Audit Committee and found to be in good order.

A note about our financial picture. Right now it looks pretty good; but looks can be deceiving! We look this good because our expenses are unnaturally low. We are not paying a secretary or a regular pastor. When we fill those positions, giving will need to increase to stay in the black.

Council members may be approached at any time with comments or concerns regarding church operations. Council meetings are open to all members of the

congregation and are generally held at 7:00 PM on the second Tuesday of every month. The next meeting is Tuesday, August 13. All are welcome to attend.

We Are Making a Difference!!!

Through our benevolence dollars and other donations, Zion supports the World Hunger Appeal and Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) throughout our nation and the world. Here's where some of our donations go:

In Brackenridge, PA—northeast of Pittsburgh—gifts to ELCA World Hunger helped build the Family Promise House. This facility provides shelter, case management, and support for families experiencing homelessness in the area.

In Cairo, Egypt, World Hunger and LDR helped over 47,000 refugees to get the resources they need to thrive in a new country. The program “changed my life,” says Ayaat, a Sudanese refugee. “They made me feel that I am not alone, that I am part of a community that cares.”

Other examples include:

Feeding ministries, supported by our gifts to ELCA World Hunger, that provide immediate support to persons in need. Community gardens and agricultural programs help communities grow food to nourish themselves and build stronger futures.

Education and vocational training programs that help people facing hunger, homelessness, and other challenges to access jobs, increase their earning potential, and break the cycle of poverty for good.

In 2023, combined support for ELCA Word Hunger and Lutheran disaster approached \$34 million. Our community, our nation, and our world are better places because you answered God's call to love our neighbor and share generously with our brothers and sisters in Christ. *Thank you!*

See Frozen at the Fulton in Lancaster

Craig Staller is organizing a trip to The Fulton Theatre in Lancaster to see *Frozen* at a 2 p.m. matinee on Saturday, December 7, 2024. This musical, based on the Disney movie, is about two princesses who are sisters who must fight back the deep winter that has shrouded their kingdom.

Tickets for front mezzanine seats are \$60 per person.

The plan is to carpool from Zion in mid-morning, eat lunch in the Lancaster area, and return home at approximately 5:45 p.m.

If you are interested in being a part of this trip, please contact Craig at 717-439-9273 or c.staller@verizon.net by August 15, 2024.

Zion Notes

Thank you from Diane McCommons

Our family would like to thank you for the cards, beautiful plant and other kind expressions of sympathy when my mother passed. Your support was deeply appreciated and will always be remembered.

Blessings always, Diane

Meals on Wheels Schedule for Zion

August 12-16
September 9-13



From Zion's Resident Poet

Then Jesus Comes Back

I like gentle quiet things,
Like soft spring winds and butterfly wings.
When the sun bids the earth goodbye,
And soft pink clouds float across the sky.

But when Jesus comes back,
What a noise there will be!
Lighting will flash,
As far as the eye can see.

The clouds will burst open,
With a trumpet blast.
Like a demolition ball,
Breaking window glass.

When He comes to earth,
With His angel band,
I hope that I'm part
Of His heavenly plan.

He will gather us up,
And I only can hope,
I'll be one of his sheep,
And not one of his goats.

Jean E. Doren

American Music Theater
Wednesday - November 13, 2024



Senior Group Bus Trip Open to all Seniors 62+

Sponsored by Zion Lutheran Church in Dauphin

\$98 all inclusive

3:00 pm Showtime - Smorgasbord Dinner

Coach Transportation (Handicap accessible)

For reservations & information

contact Lucretia Crum at LCAPOWER@YAHOO.COM

or call 717-921-2191

(Leave message if no answer and call will be returned.)

Bus will leave from and return to Dauphin Park & Ride

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Daniel & Tara Sheaffer – 8/15

Doug Bonsall & Craig Staller – 8/15

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Chris Smith – 8/7	Brooklyn Demartino – 8/18
Cathy Lafferty – 8/8	Milton McCommons – 8/19
Amanda Long – 8/10	Marlin Sheesley – 8/19
Sam Strawser – 8/12	Floyd Bechtel – 8/22
Ruth Hagy – 8/13	Marc Neville – 8/25
Deborah Borelli – 8/14	Craig Staller – 8/26
Bonnie Bechtel – 8/16	Linda Beard – 8/27
Kevin Musselman – 8/16	Robert Doren – 8/27

Calendar

Church Sponsored Meetings and Events

Wed. July 24 and August 28: Harrisburg Homeless Feed
3:00 pm Food Prep, 6:00 pm depart for Harrisburg

Tuesday, August 13: Church Council, 7:00 pm

Thursday, August 15: Senior Foodbox, 11 am – 2 pm

Council Members & Financial Officers

Mick McCommons, President
Kevin Musselman, VP
Tom Scott, Secretary
Doug Bonsall
Tammy Calhoun
Judy Harner
John Mimmall
Monica Wesner
Susan Wright

Floyd Bechtel, Treasurer
Sonia Evans, Asst. Treasurer
Dee Wesner, Financial Sec