

Zion's Tidings
A bi-monthly publication of
Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
265 North Enola Drive, Enola, PA 17025
March - April 2018
Edition # 2018 - 2



A MESSAGE FROM OUR COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Dear Brothers and sisters in Christ,

During discussion about our cemetery, cemetery caretaker position and cemetery house at last December's Annual Congregational Meeting, those present voted to hold a special congregational meeting in March 2018 with the sole purpose of taking action on recommendation(s) regarding the cemetery. That meeting will be held following worship on **Sunday, March 4, 2018**.

Members of the Congregation Council and our Renewal Team have wrestled with these issues for several months. After much discussion and prayerful discernment, the following recommendations are being brought forward for action at that March meeting.

RECOMMENDATION #1: A cemetery caretaker be vetted and selected.

Discussion:

- Currently there are four persons who have indicated an interest in the position, before advertising it.
- Since there is only about \$33,000 in cemetery funds, and estimates have come in varying from \$1,000 to \$1,400 per mow and \$200 per snow removal, there isn't enough money in the cemetery budget to contract out the work.

RECOMMENDATION #2:

Step 1: Move the office staff (pastor, secretary, music director) to the 2nd floor of the education building. This will involve:

- a. Moving all the furniture (in-house v. recruit help)
- b. Installing portable A/C units (~\$1,000)
- c. Moving phone/internet lines through Verizon

Step 2: Church Office (former parsonage) and garage to become house for caretaker

- a. Recognizing that the furnace, hot water heater, and/or air conditioning unit might need replacement.
- b. Current office garage will house all mowing and snow removal equipment. Cemetery garage/shed will be emptied out and relocated across the parking lot. All items will be inventoried.
- c. After cemetery house is emptied, drain water, oil tank, etc. and turn off all utilities.

Step 3: After cemetery house is cleaned out,

- a. Spend no more cemetery funds on it.
- b. Review tax liabilities for both houses.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

1. The move of the staff to the 2nd floor is a stop gap measure to allow the hiring of a caretaker without having to fix the cemetery house. (Bathroom is too much work for sweat-equity, and contractor cost could be \$8,000 and up).
2. ADA is an issue, but it is already an issue for the church building. There is not enough money to address this situation adequately with ramps and/or an elevator.
3. The idea is to spend minimal dollars now (in a holding pattern) and see where we are in 2- 3 years. This plan gives us time to figure out the next steps without sacrificing cemetery care.

Please prayerfully consider these recommendations, and plan to join us for this important meeting in the life of Zion. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Stephanie Hostetler, Council President



Congregation Council

Congratulations to the following members of our Congregation Council who were elected or appointed to serve in leadership positions for 2018.

- President** - *Stephanie Hostetler*
- Vice-President** - *Larry Staaby*
- Secretary** - *Mike Placzek*
- Financial Secretary** - *Stephanie Hostetler*
- Treasurer** - *Lynn Placzek*

The remaining members of Council include *Joann Baltozer, Helga Jensen, Debbie Loope, Forrest Myers and Sara Reynolds*

Council agreed to continue working under the structure for committee reporting. The various ministries will report to the five liaisons as indicated, who will bring those reports and any recommendations to Council.

Administration - *Helga Jensen*, Liaison
 Constitution Keeping Kids Safe
 Mutual Ministry Nominating

Fellowship - *Lynn Placzek*, Liaison
 Seniors Ministry Fellowship
 Youth Ministry

Facilities - *Mike Placzek*, Liaison
 Property Cemetery
 Technology Cemetery Treasurer
 Communications

Education & Outreach - *Larry Staaby*, Liaison
 Christian Education Stewardship
 Worship & Music Social Ministry/Outreach
 Evangelism/Membership

Finance - *Joann Baltozer*, Liaison
 Finance Audit
 Memorial Fundraising
 Financial Coordinator

Camping - *Pastor Gwenn Trout*, Coordinator

Family Promise - *Debbie Loope*, Coordinator

All of our ministries are looking for new members and new ideas. Please consider serving in some capacity by contacting the appropriate liaison.

January 15, 2018 Meeting Highlights

- ◆ Accepted Bruce Deveney's letter of resignation from Congregation Council due to work conflicts
- ◆ Approved Helga Jensen to complete Bruce Deveney's term on Congregation Council (through 2019)
- ◆ Approved funding of the \$4,000 technology budget through the Memorial Fund
- ◆ Approved the installation of WiFi within the church building

February 19, 2018 Meeting Highlights

- ◆ Set date of March 4 for Congregational Meeting to take action on recommendations regarding the Cemetery
- ◆ Approved appointment of Lynn Placzek as Treasurer for 2018
- ◆ Approved the purchase of two laptops, including peripherals and software, for use by the Treasurer and Financial Secretary
 - ◆ Approved Technology Team's recommendation to buy out our current copier contract (expires in August) in order to lease a similar but newer black and white only copier at a savings of \$48/month or \$576 year.

The next meeting of the Congregation Council will be **Monday, March 19** at 6:30 pm.

FAMILY PROMISE HOSTING

The next week Zion will be hosting Family Promise families in 2018 will be September 23-30. *Denise Hoffman* is our new Family Promise coordinator, and she will be gathering volunteers for our host week. Contact Denise by e-mail at dhoffman@afusa.org or phone at 717-433-5667.

CALL FOR SYNOD ASSEMBLY VOTING MEMBERS

Synod Assembly will be held this year from **Thursday, May 31**, 8:30 am through **Saturday, June 2** at Messiah College. Two voting members from the congregation are needed to attend this event as well as the Conference Spring Assembly on **Sunday, April 22** at 3:00 pm here at Zion. If you are interested in serving, please see *Pastor Gwenn*.



This year Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the season of Lent, fell on February 14 - Valentine's Day. It does seem like an odd pairing — Ash Wednesday, a day of solemn repentance and honest reckoning of our brokenness, and Valentine's Day, a lighthearted (though heavily commercially-laden) celebration of love. But they actually have more in common than one would think.

What if, instead of thinking about Ash Wednesday in negative or sad terms, we instead thought about it as a valentine from God - a day that invites us to enter deep into the mystery of true love, honest examination of our lives, and the possibility of real repentance for our sinfulness. Ash Wednesday starts us on the journey to the cross, to the passionate love of God shown in the Passion and death of Christ. And after the cross, the resurrection. What better love story has been written in all of history?

So, while our initial reaction to this year's February 14th observances might be confusion or frustration over the mixing of celebrations that appear on the surface to be polar opposites, I think that we could not experience a more blessed collision of themes. For both of these days are all about love - God's love for us, and our love for God.

Who and what do we love? Who and what do we treasure? Jesus asks this question in the Sermon on the Mount, and he gives his disciples a warning: *"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."* (Matthew 6:19-21, NRSV)

In this text, Jesus warns us that if these earthly treasures become our true treasures, that is where and what our hearts will worship. But if our treasure is rightly placed, there is no way that it can be destroyed by rust or moth, or stolen by thieves. If our treasure is based in heaven, and is in our hearts, then no one and no thing can take that

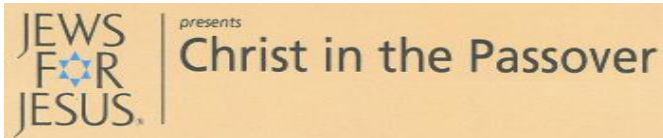
away from us. If our treasure is in heaven – if what really counts with us is the name of God and God's will for us – then our hearts, our lives and our joy will rest solely and completely in God, a God who loves us unconditionally and who gave his only Son so that we might share eternal life with God.

The history of salvation is one extended love story between God and God's creation, between God and humankind, between God and God's people. We were created in love for love - real love, love that is solid and deep and unwavering. Love that is true enough to be honest. As Martin Luther reminded us, "Anything on which your heart relies and depends, I say, that is really your God." ("The Large Catechism," *The Book of Concord*, ed. Kolb & Wengert 2000, p. 386). Even a good thing, like being in love, carries peril.

On February 14, as ashen crosses were placed on our foreheads and we heard the words, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return," we were reminded of our sinfulness, yes. But equally important, we were reminded of the nature of God to forgive. How did the psalmist say it? *"Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love; you will not always accuse us, nor will you keep your anger forever. You have not dealt with us according to our sins, nor repaid us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is your steadfast love for those you fear you. As far as the east is from the west, so far have you removed our transgressions from us. For you know well how we are formed; you remember that we are but dust."* (Psalm 103:8-14)

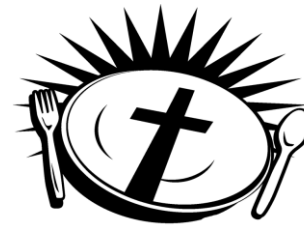
So, we may be dust, but we are God's dust, God's beloved children - God who is *"full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love."* That fact alone ought to make us different - and act differently - when this season of Lent is over. And as luck - or sheer coincidence - would have it, Easter comes on April 1 - no fooling!

See you in church!



Sunday, March 4
10:15 am

Jesus' Last Supper was actually a Jewish Passover. Peter Blitshteyn of Jews for Jesus will re-create the traditional Passover service during worship on **Sunday, March 4** and explain how it foreshadowed Jesus' death and resurrection in a presentation called "Christ in the Passover." The presenter will set a table with items traditionally used at the Passover meal and detail their spiritual significance. He will also explain the connection between the events of the first Passover in Egypt and the redemption that Jesus accomplished, as well as the deep bond between the ancient Passover feast and the Christian communion celebration today. A free-will offering will be received during the service to help cover travel expenses for the presenter.



Lenten Luncheon Series

sponsored by the
Upper West Shore Ecumenical Ministerium

The Christians of East Pennsboro Township and Enola are once again gathering on the Wednesdays in Lent at local churches for lunch and a message from the host pastor. Cost of lunches is \$5 per person, and lunch is served at noon. The theme is "Great Traditions, Vibrant Faith." The schedule for remaining gatherings includes:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
March 7	West Shore Brethren in Christ
March 14	Our Lady of Lourdes Church
March 21	Enola Emmanuel UMC

2018 NOISY OFFERINGS

Thank you for your contributions to our Noisy Offerings! To date the following has been collected and sent to the respective agencies:

- January** - Lutheran Disaster Response (where most needed) (\$110.50)
- February** - *Souper Bowl of Caring*, recipient New Hope Ministries (\$186.50)

Following are the remaining 2018 beneficiaries determined so far:

- March** - Jews for Jesus (special offering to be received for presentation of *Christ in the Passover*)
- April** - Lower Susquehanna Synod food packing event at Synod Assembly
- May** - Lutheran Camping Corporation (for camperships)
- June** - Frederickson Library, Enola Branch
- July** - Lukasi Lutheran Church
- August** - She's Somebody's Daughter
- September** - SpiritTrust

As you can see, a little bit of change goes a long way. So "save your pennies" each month and remember to bring them to worship on the first Sunday of each month! And, as always, thank you for your contributions.



Wednesdays @ 6:00 pm

We are again holding Dinner Church here at Zion in Fellowship Hall on the Wednesday evenings in Lent. A pot-luck dinner is incorporated with the worship service, including Holy Communion. We will hear from a variety of characters in the Passion Story. The remaining schedule includes:

- **March 7** - Peter
- **March 14** - Peter's wife
- **March 21** - Pilate's wife

This more informal approach for our Wednesday evenings will allow for lots of discussion and extended fellowship time, and all attending can help with both set-up and clean-up. Set-up begins at 5:30 pm. Please join us!



Holy Week Worship Schedule

Sunday, March 25

Palm/Passion Sunday

featuring the Passion Story of Mark
10:15 am

Thursday, March 29

Maundy Thursday

7:00 pm
Eucharist with Stripping of the Altar

Friday, March 30

Community Good Friday Service

Noon @ Enola First Church of God

Friday, March 30

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Featuring the Passion Story of John
7:00 pm

Saturday, March 31

Easter Vigil Service

8:00 pm

Sunday, April 1

Easter Breakfast

8:00 am
Sponsored by the Fellowship Committee
\$10 adults, \$5 children 12 and under
(pre-payment required)

Sunday, April 1

Easter Festival Service

10:15 am



SUNDAY, MARCH 11

Set your clocks ahead one hour!



LUTHERAN CAMPING CORPORATION Spring Events

For more information, check out the flyers on the
bulletin board, call 717-677-8211, or visit
www.lutherancamping.org

**Saturday, March 3 - Lenten Day Apart at The
Wittel Farm** *Receiving the Silence of God Like
Thunder* led by Pastor Mike Allwein. Registration
includes lunch and is \$15 per person.

**Friday, March 16 - Sunday, March 18 - Women's
Quilting Weekend at Kirchenwald** Bring your own
projects or learn techniques from experienced
quilters. Enjoy a weekend apart with the ladies.
Cost of the full weekend (Fri-Sun) is \$150. Two
days (Fri-Sat or Sat-Sun) is \$85.
One day (Sat, 9am-4pm) is \$55

**Sunday, March 18 & Sunday April 9 - Summer
Camp Open House at Kirchenwald and
Nawakwa** Tour the camps with members of the
summer staff and see what camp is all about. As a
bonus, every brand new camper will receive a \$10
gift certificate for the camp store.

**Sunday, April 22 - Earth Day Celebration at
Kirchenwald** Enjoy an afternoon of environmental
activities, games and crafts at camp. An evening
meal is included in the \$10 fee. All ages welcome.

Friday, May 11 - Lutheran Camping Night with
the Harrisburg Senators. Tickets are \$11 pp, with
\$4 going back to the Camping Corporation. Tickets
must be reserved by April 22. See the sign-up
sheet on the Fellowship Table.



**SPRING ARRIVES!
MARCH 20, 2018**

CONGRATULATIONS!

- *Larry Staaby* on his recent retirement from the IT Department, PA Department of Health. He is looking forward to spending more time with his family and volunteering here at Zion.

- *Kim Hileman* who will retire this month from the Senate of Pennsylvania. Kim will be relocating to Florida to enjoy her retirement. We wish her the best.

- *Callie Myers* on being named to the Dean's list for the Fall semester at Central Penn College. Callie began her studies there in October.

- *Rachel Johnson* on being accepted as a M.Div. student at United Lutheran Seminary. She will begin her studies in August.

THANKS!

- *Mike Placzek* and the Property Team for new lighting in fellowship hall
- *Arlan Wiest* for re-supplying our pew attendance pads
- *Rose-Anna Behr* and *Jill Myers* for donating items for the West Shore Lutheran Cooperative's Mardi Gras Silent Auction last month
- All those who helped with snow removal during the winter months in the absence of a cemetery caretaker
- *Joann Baltozer, Marlene Engle, Nancy Hileman, Rachel & Stelle Johnson, Sandy Olley, Dan Placzek, Lynn Placzek, Micki Priar, Sarah Reynolds, Pat Rickenbach, Larry Ross* and *Emily Stambaugh* for their help preparing and serving food, and setting up and clearing dishes for the Ministerium Lenten luncheon hosted by Zion on February 21.



The next Bonfire/Game Night being held at Zion will be on **Saturday, March 3** at 6:30 pm. Weather permitting, we will hold the bonfire in the courtyard; if weather is inclement, we will move inside for game night. Bring a drink/snack to share and your chair to the bonfire. See you there!



The following organizations have expressed a need for volunteers and/or donations. To learn more, please contact the organization at the address or number listed.

► **Family Promise of Harrisburg Capital Region;** contact *Lisette Gonzalez* at 717-737-1100, or email lgonzalez@familypromisehcr.org.

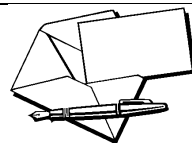
► **Enola Meals on Wheels;** contact *Terry Magaro* at 717-350-6285 to volunteer; to order meals, call *Karen Stine* at 717-697-5011.

► **Homeland Hospice** is seeking volunteers to support patients in Enola and surrounding areas to help meet the needs of those at end of life and their families. For more information, call *Leanne Porterfield* at 717-409-8882 or email her at lporterfield@homelandhospice.org.

► **New Hope Ministries;** Go to www.nhm-pa.org or call 717-766-7333. *Joanne Fortney* is Volunteer Coordinator. Volunteers are especially needed at the Enola Mobile Food Pantry hosted by River of God Church on the third Saturday of each month, and at the center in Lemoyne.

► **Bethesda Mission in Harrisburg** - Seeking dedicated volunteers to work with staff to coordinate product needs and pickup between its outreach warehouse in Mechanicsburg and ministry locations in Harrisburg. Volunteers should be comfortable lifting up to 50 pounds and driving a cargo van. Contact *Deb King* at 717-257-4442, ext. 222 or e-mail dking@bethesdamission.org.

► **Hospice of Central PA** has volunteer opportunities in patient care/family support and their new Vet-to-Vet visitation program. See the flyer on the narthex bulletin board. For a volunteer application or more information, visit their website at www.hospiceofcentralpa.org or call the office at 717-732-1000 or 866-779-7374.



IN THE MAILBAG

Patrick Arter
1 Hunter Lane
Camp Hill, PA 17011
Phone: 717-737-8791

Carolyn Gross
104 Mountain View Drive
Enola, PA 17025
Phone: 717-732-1970

Dorothy Kirkessner
Country Meadows, Room 108
4837 E. Trindle Road
Mechanicsburg, PA 17050

Evelyn Miller
Stonebridge Health and Rehabilitation, Room 35
102 Chandra Drive
Duncannon, PA 17020

Beverly Pepper
Kinkora Pythian Home, Room 112
25 Cove Road
Duncannon, PA 17020
Phone: 717-834-4877

Marie Shumaker
Weston Senior Living Center at Northampton
1001 Washington Avenue (Room 141)
Northampton, PA 18067
Phone: 610-262-7618

William Schmick
Claremont Home Rehab. Center, Room 318
1000 Claremont Drive
Carlisle, PA 17013

Please remember these faithful members of Zion who are unable to attend worship with cards of encouragement throughout the year. It would mean so much to them.

Dear Pastor and members of Zion:

Grace and peace to you, God the Father, and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The members of Lukaski Lutheran thank you for your gift of \$145.50 from your Noisy Offering.

Rev. James Tweve
Lukasi Lutheran Church, Konde Diocese, Tanzania



Dear Friends:

Thank you for your generous gift to Heifer International. Your desire to help others will build hope for future generations. Families in countries where we work like Bangladesh, Guatemala and Malawi, who once struggled with hunger and poverty, now have the livestock and training they need to improve their farms. With your commitment and their hard work, they are on their way to building lives of self-reliance and dignity, uplifting entire communities in the process. Thank you for choosing Heifer International and helping us make a better world, one family at a time.

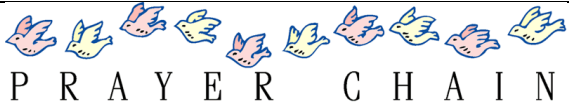
Sincerely,
Pierre U. Ferrari
President and CEO
Heifer International



Dear Friends at Zion Lutheran Church:

Thank you for your generous gift of 23 Mission Quilts for Lutheran World Relief's distribution overseas. These gifts of your hearts and hands are beautiful expressions of God's grace and love to people all around the world. Your quilts provide an important necessity to our neighbors around the world, and serve as a reminder that they are not alone or forgotten. On behalf of our neighbors in villages, schools, hospitals and refugee camps around the world, I extend deepest thanks for your contribution, and pray God's richest blessings on your life and work.

Sincerely,
Melanie W. Gibbons
Quilt & Kit Ministry Manager, Lutheran World Relief



Micki Priar oversees Zion's very active Prayer Chain. These Zion members have agreed to pray for those persons and concerns on our prayer chain. We are seeking additional members to be a part of this important ministry. The power of prayer is wonderful! If you feel called to help, or if you would like to add a name to the prayer list, contact Micki Priar at 717-732-1669. If you would like persons to be included on the prayer list for worship, please contact Pastor Gwenn or Durene Archer. Names are not automatically placed on both lists.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTER

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Mr. William Hetrick
3625 N. 6th Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110

Mr. Milan Koneff
226 East New Street
Lancaster, PA 17602

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Wolfinger
14957 SW 112th Circle
Dunnellon, FL 34432-8792

DIED

June G. Weirick
Friday, February 16
Services will be held in Port St. Lucie, FL

NOTE: Please remember to inform the church office of any changes in your contact information so you may continue to receive mailings in a timely manner.

IT'S HERE!

Zion's own **QR Code!** To make on-line donations to Zion:



Or download the **Give + Church mobile app** and search for Zion Lutheran Church, Enola PA. Set up an account for recurring gifts, or make a one-time donation.

**NEW HOPE MINISTRIES
FOOD BANK WISH LIST**

Most-needed items in the food bank at New Hope Ministries' Mechanicsburg and Lemoyne Centers are:

- canned tuna
- vegetables and fruit
- instant potatoes
- ketchup
- mayonnaise
- peanut butter

In addition, fresh produce is always welcome. Please drop off donations at the West Shore Center at 5228 E. Trindle Road, Mechanicsburg, 701 Bosler Avenue, Lemoyne, or telephone 717-766-7333.



ZION'S FINANCIAL INFORMATION - Check the Sunday bulletin for the most up-to-date financial information from our treasurer. Please remember to keep up with your offerings even if you are traveling or working and unable to attend worship. To help with that, see below.

GIVING MADE SIMPLE - Electronic giving is a convenient, consistent way to help our church year round. Consider scheduling a recurring electronic contribution today through our *Simply Giving* program. It's easy! You will no longer need to write out checks and prepare envelopes every week. And when travel, illness, inclement weather or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, your electronic contributions will continue to be received on an uninterrupted basis, and changes can be made at any time. Get started today! Visit our church website at www.zionelca.org for more information, or pick up a *Simply Giving Users Guide* on the Fellowship table.

HOW TO USE YOUR PHONE FOR EVANGELISM



Did you know? **Christians are key players in the digital world.** Nearly 75% of Christians read the Bible electronically. 46 million Americans and 714 million people worldwide have access to the internet and have global connected TV devices. 49% have Smart TVs. And 51% have OTT (Over The Top), or set top boxes - Amazon Fire TV, Apple TV, Roku, or Game Consoles.

Ever-changing technology and our mobile devices have created ways we can share the good news of Jesus with others. While some congregations are embracing tech-savvy ways of evangelism, others see worship as a time to "power down" on electronics. (We are probably somewhere in the middle.) Whether you post a message during the service or wait to share a photo until you get home, you can use Facebook, Instagram and/or Twitter to promote your congregation. Here are some ideas.

Check in. When you get to church, pull out your phone and check in by tapping "Update status" and choosing "Check in." With your check-in, say something awesome about Zion and how happy you are to be there. A post like this promotes Zion because instantly all of your friends can see where the church is and how great you think it is. You never know when one of your friends may be looking for a church home. (Security note: Before checking in at places, make sure your privacy settings allow only your friends - people you've approved - to see where you are.)

Share an insight. Often during worship, something strikes us just the right way. It speaks to our heart and helps us see the gospel, ourselves or the world in new ways. Don't keep it to yourself! Post that insight to Facebook. Share the ways God is speaking to you in worship.

Take a picture. Is there part of the church facility you really love or a beautiful piece of art? Take a picture and post it on social media to help people see the amazing things you see on Sunday mornings. Even better - pair that photo with an insight you heard during worship. (Note: As a general rule, ask permission before posting photos of other people.)

Like, comment and share. Facebook pages don't always reach as many people as you might think. The "Facebook algorithm" means that more relevant posts are likely to show up in your news feed. Posts become more relevant when people you know like them, comment on them and/or share them. Every time you like, comment and share posts from Zion's Facebook pages (we have both a group and a page), you help Zion's ministries reach more people.

If you do even one of these, consider yourself a member of our Evangelism and Membership Committee! And it didn't even require a meeting.....



MARCH

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------|----|-----------------|
| 2 | Larry Ross | 15 | Kylie Patno |
| 7 | Gerald Kirkessner | 16 | Judy Hauck |
| 7 | Ian Stambaugh | 16 | Carter Keys |
| 7 | Shirley Wiest | 16 | Wayne Smith |
| 8 | Bonnie Carswell | 17 | Devin Albrand |
| 11 | Mason Keys | 17 | Erik Johnson |
| 12 | Eleanor Conrad | 19 | Matthew Deveney |
| 13 | Stelle Johnson | 19 | Robert Shuler |
| 14 | Daniel Hetrick | 22 | Kim Hileman |
| 15 | Kevin Cramer | 30 | Kerry Myers |
| 15 | Clayton Meisel | | |

APRIL

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------|----|-------------------|
| 5 | Karen Hoffman | 20 | Conner Jensen |
| 10 | Marshall Frantz | 21 | Brayden Wolgamuth |
| 13 | John Frymire | 25 | Paula Unger |
| 13 | Patricia Keys | 27 | Brynn Plumley |
| 16 | Tara Reed | 28 | Shawnee Magaro |
| 17 | Tina Kelly | 30 | André Magaro |
| 17 | Logan Wolgamuth | 30 | Emily Stambaugh |
| 19 | Angela Cramer | | |

RESPONSE TO FLORIDA HS SHOOTING

A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled because they are no more (Matthew 2:18).

As we live into these first days and weeks of Lent, we do so riveted by the news of another tragic mass shooting, this time at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, FL on Ash Wednesday. My heart, like yours, is filled with anguish; my spirit, like yours, laments. Rachel weeps for her children, refusing to be consoled because they are no more, and so do we.

We pray for the inconsolable loved ones and for the shooter and his family, for those terrorized by what took place and those who are unmoved. We acknowledge our own failings and ask God to guide us in finding new ways to turn the tide together on both the availability of assault weapons *and* the lack of mental health care.

But we know that those things alone won't solve this epidemic. All of us, including the church, must take a close look at ourselves. How are we cultivating a culture of violence, hatred, anger and fear, and how can we participate in building a counter-culture where people can experience God's intended peace and life abundant for all?

Lent is a time for lamentation, dwelling with our sorrow, and facing the painful reality of death. We take each step certain that God weeps with us, walks with us in our deepest sufferings, and in the end makes the ultimate sacrifice for us – through death on a cross. This is our strength for the journey.

A prayer offered by Bishop Pedro Suárez, Florida-Bahamas Synod: *Dear loving God, There are so many things we don't understand about our world. We might not know how the families and friends of the victims of today's shooting are feeling. But we do care. May they feel your presence in spirit through those that are accompanying them right now. Help us to be mindful of the pain around us and to do something about it. We pray this in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

God's peace,
The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop, ELCA



OUR PRAYERS and the comfort of the Christian faith are extended to the friends and family of *June G. Weirick* on her death on Friday, February 16 in Port St. Lucie, Florida. Notes of condolence can be sent to her daughter, Bonnie Carl, at 368 SW Quiet Woods, Port St. Lucie, FL 34953.

Our prayers also go out to *Shirley Wiest* and family on the recent death of her step-father, Jack Gruver.

HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS

Please inform the church office and/or Pastor Gwenn 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 HIPAA 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 717-732-9652 and/or Pastor Gwenn's home (717-564-1034) or cell phone (717-602-9913), will help us respond to you with pastoral care for a time of change in your life.

TAX SEMINAR OFFERED

If you currently take the required minimum distribution from an IRA or are a church leader concerned about how the new tax law will affect congregational giving, you will want to attend this one-hour session hosted by our synod's Gift Planner, Pastor Liz Polanzke. **New Tax Law: New Ways to Give** will be held on **Sunday, March 4**, 2:30 pm at St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 839 West Market Street, York. For more information contact Pastor Polanzke at elizabeth.polanzke@elca.org or 717-654-2334.

SOCIAL MEDIA CORNER



6 REASONS EVERY CHILD (and adult!) SHOULD GO TO CAMP

1. Camp Kirchenwald (Colebrook, Lebanon County), Camp Nawakwa (Arendtsville, Adams County) and the Wittel Farm Retreat Center (in Elizabethtown) support and assist congregations and parent as they fulfill their baptismal promises to raise and be faith-filled children of God, as campers are instructed in the Christian faith, participate in worship, learn about prayer, the Ten Commandments, and the Holy Scriptures in ways and settings that only camp can provide. The camps offer faith-building experiences that keep campers connected to their congregations and help to raise future lay and rostered church leaders.
2. The camps offer caring communities where the joys of acceptance and serving prompt children to try new positive behaviors, express care for others, resolve conflict, and respect others.
3. The camps are safe and nurturing places where trained, caring adults are positive and faithful role models who encourage campers to try new things and feel capable, included, and secure as they grow spiritually, physically and emotionally.
4. The camps are a vital part of a child's education and part of year-round learning through discovery, exploration, observation, discussion, self-reliance and active participation in many and various activities.
5. The camps are fun and offer something for everyone - regardless of age! Camp is not just for children and those who want to "rough it". There are a wide range of choices and opportunities in a relaxed and unpressured environment to meet the interests of all children, adults and families.
6. Kirchenwald, Nawakwa and the Wittel Farm offer new experiences no matter how many times a camper returns. There are new friends to meet, new staff to get to know, and new activities to try.

A week (or shorter) at camp is surprisingly affordable for families and individuals, especially with the option of Tiered Pricing. The Camping Corporation believes that all kids should have the opportunity to attend camp. Camperships are always available, and discounts are given for multiple family members attending camp.

2018 summer brochures are available on the resource table in the hallway. Pick up one today!

Check out Zion's **website** at www.ZionELCA.org. Send your comments or suggestions to webmaster *Donna Jacobs* at djacobs517@verizon.net.

Sign up to receive the Lower Susquehanna Synod's e-newsletter, **W.E. Are Synod**, at www.lss-elca.org/. Scroll to the bottom and click on "sign up for e-communications." Learn about events and news throughout the synod.

The **ELCA website** at www.ELCA.org offers a wealth of information on what's happening around our church, as well as resources for congregations and individuals alike. Also, check out [Facebook.com/Lutherans](https://www.facebook.com/Lutherans) to find news, stories and photos from the ministries of the ELCA.

Do we have your e-mail address? Both *Pastor Gwenn* and our secretary, *Durene Archer*, maintain a list of email addresses that are used to send out mass announcements. They are useful if we need to notify folks of closures, requests for help with special functions, and news of upcoming events. If you would like to be placed on these lists, please contact the church office at zionenola@verizon.net.



RALLY TO END RACISM BUS TRIP

In commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the Rev. Elizabeth A.

Eaton, presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), invites us to join her in Washington, D.C. for the Rally to End Racism on April 4, 2018. **If there is sufficient interest**, the Lower Susquehanna Synod will organize a bus trip to Washington D.C. on April 4, 2018. If you would like to join us, sign up online at www.lss-elca.org/act-now-rally by March 5, 2018.



Join the Harrisburg Senators as they take on the New Hampshire Fisher Cats
for our annual

LUTHERAN CAMPING NIGHT

FRIDAY, MAY 11, 2018

Gates open 6:00 pm Game time 7:00 pm

\$11 Box Seat Tickets

\$4 from each ticket will benefit the Lutheran Camping Corporation

Post-Game Fireworks!

Sign up for tickets by Sunday, April 22

Take Me Out to the Ballgame

(Tune: Take Me Out To the Ball Game)

Take me out to the ball game,
Help send more kids to camp.

Make a nice gift to the Campership Fun

Just by attending a Senators' game

On a Friday night, May eleventh,

The game starts at 7:00!

And a POR! TION!

Of advance sales

Goes to Cam...Per...Ships!