

CHURCH KEY

A NEWSLETTER THAT OPENS PEOPLE TO THE MINISTRIES OF



329 Church Road Kutztown, Pennsylvania

610-683-7485

a Federated Church of
The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
and
The United Church of Christ

April 2019

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REMINDERS

- ♦ The cost for a vase of flowers is \$18.00 and the cost to be a bulletin sponsor is \$8.00. Payment may be given to Jane Warmkessel or put the money in one of the flower/bulletin envelopes found in the Gathering Area and place in the offering plate.
- ♦ Any checks written out for the offering, altar flowers, or bulletins should be made payable to **Zion's Union Church Maxatawny**.
- ♦ Any checks for the cemetery should be made out to Maxatawny Zion Cemetery Company, Inc. not to the church.
- ♦ We have DVDs of the worship services available for use at home. Contact the church office if you would like to borrow one.
- ◆ Let the church office know if you have been admitted to the hospital. The hospitals **DO NOT** notify the church if members have been hospitalized.
- ◆ Zion's Union Church Maxatawny's website is www.zionsunion.org. Check out our website.
- ♦ Zion's has a prayer chain. If you would like to add a name to the Prayer Chain call Marion Angstadt at 610-683-3918.
- Sports cleats are not allowed in the church.
- After church refreshments should be kept on the lower level of the church.

THE PASTOR'S PAGE



Is the mood of Lent only one of sorrow and repentance? If so, it would be very dismal and bleak indeed. As you read this, we are nearing the end of Lent and approaching Holy Week, the bleakest time of the Church Year. Thankfully we know (as Jesus' disciples did

not) that as we go down into the "valley of the shadow of death" with Jesus on Good Friday, that resurrection lies on the other side. But like the disciples, we need a readiness and determination to follow God's leading even when we are uncertain as to what lies ahead. To move toward the resurrection and the fulfillment of our hopes, we need to be ready to climb the hills and walk through life's deepest valleys with Jesus.

In the midst of the fear and sorrow of Good Friday, the disciples may have momentarily forgotten the triumphal entry on Palm Sunday, but the One who rode with them into Jerusalem and then went to the cross had not abandoned them. The God who was in Christ never leaves us. In the midst of life's trials, happiness and success sometimes seems far, far away. However, if we remember that God is always with us, even as God was with Jesus on the cross, we can live with the assurance and expectation of new life and restored happiness.

Hardship and suffering will always exist, at least in *this* life. Good Friday starkly shows us that goodness, love, and truth sometimes end up getting crucified. Hope is dashed to the ground. Even friends may forsake us, as Judas forsook Jesus. Living in Christian faith does not mean that we live a charmed life, where nothing bad can happen. Deep down we know that this is true, but somehow, when we face a sudden loss or hardship, it is easy to lose faith. We may even wonder if we have done something wrong and are being punished. But Jesus, on the cross, endured something terribly wrong and unjust. Certainly he had done nothing to be punished for, but even Jesus wondered if God had forsaken him ("My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"). At the end, though, faith returned. With his dying breath Jesus said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit."

Hard times do not deny resurrection. They set the stage where resurrection can take place. When suffering comes, we may wonder if God has forsaken us, but God is there, sharing our pain. When his son was killed in an auto accident in the early 1980s, William Coffin, former chaplain of Yale University said, "When my son died, God's heart was the first to break." Perhaps, rather than seeing God as a guardian angel who will prevent anything bad from happening to us, we should see God as a companion, a support, a staff to help us as we walk through life. Good Friday reminds us that we are not yet

in Paradise, but God is with us wherever we are, even as we walk through the valley of the shadow of death. With God's help we can endure anything and press on to new life.

From a fellow pilgrim pressing on to Easter,

Pastor Jeff

	APRIL AND MAY WO	RSHIP	
April 3	Mid-Week Lent Service		7:30 P.M.
April 7	Fifth Sunday of Lent	SS 9:00	church 10:15
April 10	Mid-Week Lent Service		7:30 P.M.
April 14	Palm/Passion Sunday	SS 9:00	church 10:15
April 18	Maundy Thursday		7:00 P.M.
April 19	Good Friday		7:00 P.M.
April 21	Easter Dawn		6:00 A.M.
April 21	Easter	SS 9:00	church 10:15
April 28	Second Sunday of Easter	SS 9:00	church 10:15
May 5	Third Sunday of Easter	SS 9:00	church 10:15
May 12	4th Sun. Easter/Mother's Day	SS 9:00	church 10:15
May 19	Fifth Sunday of Easter	SS 9:00	church 10:15
May 26	Sixth Sunday of Easter	SS 9:00	church 10:15

ANNUAL REPORTS

The 2018 Annual Reports are now available. If you are unable to get to the church to pick one up, please call the church office and one can be mailed to you.



DVD NEEDED

The church is looking for a DVD from the **December 21, 2018** service. If you have one, please bring it along to church so a copy can be made. Thank you.

INGATHERING

On the first Sunday of each month the Mission Outreach
Committee will continue to collect items to fill bags with food
staples for needy children and their families in the Kutztown,
Brandywine, and Fleetwood School Districts. Please participate
by dropping off non-perishable items from the list below in the container
provided in the Gathering Area.

single serve size macaroni and cheese peanut butter canned pasta single serve size applesauce canned tuna canned soup fruit cups granola bars fruit snacks

RELAY FOR LIFE BRUNCH

Zion's Relay for Life Team will hold a brunch immediately after the worship service on **April 7**th to raise funds for this year's event. Donations are \$7.00 for adults, \$4.00 for children ages 6-12, and children under age 6 eat free. Everyone is welcome.



EASTER FLOWERS

We will be decorating our church with flowers for Easter. Prices are \$8.00 for tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths and \$10.00 for lilies. Any checks should be made out to Zion's Union Church Maxatawny. See Karen Warmkessel to pay for your flowers. Deadline for orders and payment is **April 7th.** A tear-off order form is below for your convenience. It may be returned to the church in the offering plate, given to Karen Warmkessel, or mailed to the church office with payment.

ENSTER LEG WERE STOLLED	
NAME	PHONE
IN HONOR OF or IN MEM	ORY OF (circle one)
NUMBER OF FLOWERS:	Please place number of each on the line.
THEIDS	DAFFODII S

FASTER FLOWER SIGN UP

...... HYACINTHS LILIES

KID'S CHOIR

The Kid's Choir rehearsals will be March 31st, April 7th, and April 14th.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTRY

The Eucharistic Ministry Team will make their visits after the **April 7**th Communion Service. If you know of anyone who is temporarily unable to come to the service for communion and would like a visit from one of our Eucharistic ministers, please notify Grace Haas at 610-683-3910 as soon as possible.



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

Maundy Thursday Service - Thursday, April 18th at 7:00 P.M.

Holy Communion.

Good Friday Service - Friday, April 19th at 7:00 P.M.

Easter Dawn Service – Sunday, April 21st at 6:00 A.M. Holy

Communion.

Easter Service – Sunday, April 21st at 10:15 A.M. Holy

Communion.

EGG HUNT

The Youth Group is sponsoring an Egg Hunt on **April 20th** at 1:00 P.M. (rain or shine). Children nursery through grade 4 are invited.



BLOOD DRIVE

The Blood Mobile will be at Zion's on **Tuesday, May 7th** from 3:30 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. A sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board on the second floor by the stairs. You can also sign up online at giveapint.org (Group ID: 3303).



If you or anyone you know received donated blood and would like to share their story leave a message with Pat Kutz at 610-944-9456 or write your story down and put it in the secretary's box in the Gathering Area.

MUSIC SUNDAY



Theresa is looking for soloists, groups, and instruments to help with Music Sunday on May 12th. All information must be given to Theresa by April 28th.

RELAY FOR LIFE 2019, MAY 31ST AND JUNE 1ST AT KUTZTOWN UNIVERSITY

Relay for Life, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, is about celebrating survivorship, remembering those we've lost, and bringing awareness to our community. Held over a twenty-four hour period, the Relay for Life involves teams of 10-15 people, asked to raise \$100 each for the American Cancer Society, who take turns walking, running, strolling around the tr



Society, who take turns walking, running, strolling around the track. Relay for Life will begin on Friday, May 31^{stt}, at 3:00 P.M. Anyone interested in being a part of the team please see Sue Haas or Enos Bleiler for a registration packet.

STRAWBERRY & ICE CREAM FESTIVAL

The annual Strawberry and Ice Cream Festival will be held **June 7**th from 6:00 to 9:00 P.M. Entertainment will be the Dogs of Faulkner Swamp. There will be a Basket Raffle. If you would like to donate a basket for the raffle, please let the Sunday School office know. If you would like to help with the festival see Traci Gehringer or contact her at 610-944-1818.

SCRABBLE

Scrabble will meet the third Monday of the month at 1:30 P.M. at the Lutheran Home in the social area near Sylvia's room. See Ellie Merkel if interested.

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

The Cancer Support Group will meet the second Monday of the month at 6:30 P.M. See Loretta Flicker for more information.

WOMEN IN ZION

A group of Christian women in service, mission, and study for the benefit of all.

Meetings are open to all women of the congregation.

April 8 Meeting at 1:00 P.M. Service

Project, Easter favors for St. John's.

May 11 Saturday, 10 A.M. to 12 noon,

Mother's Day tea. See below.



For more information contact Linda Ballew-Johnson (484-553-1981) or Loretta Flicker (610-683-3627).

PLAN YOUR MOTHER'S DAY SATURDAY MORNING – BRING A FRIEND

Mark Your Calendars for Saturday morning **May 11**th from 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon. The WIZ is hosting a light brunch and tea to honor the women in our lives. To celebrate who we are and have been, Susan Nagle will share a program entitled "Vintage Aprons". Susan is an avid apron collector. She has had a passion for aprons since she was a little girl. The oldest apron in her collection is from 1898. Come and learn more about the history and uses of aprons over the years. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the second floor bulletin board. Any questions, see Linda Ballew-Johnson or Loretta Flicker.

MISSION OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD IN BELIZE, SOUTH AMERICA

Jamie Garbutt, a missionary in Belize, South America, asked for our prayers for extremely needy children who live in the mission led by Pastor Stephen Post. The names of the children to be prayed for are: Susie Westby, Myrtle Tracy, Ashanti Obrien, Orlando Jackson, and Stephanie Logan. There are other children at the mission, but these children have immediate, urgent needs. Pastor Post had written nearly 100 letters to other pastors asking for their

prayers, but none responded. We can let the pastor and missionary know we at Zion's are praying for those children by emailing them at

goodshepherdbelize@gmail.com. In return the children will send a colored picture each month done by one of the children for whom we are praying.

Members of Women In Zion are hoping you will join them in this effort.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Youth in grades 5 through high school are welcome to join.

Activity Schedule: April 7

•	to 3:00 P.M.
April 20	Easter Egg Hunt
April 28	Potato slicing, Becker's St. Peters
	Lutheran Church, leave church at
	1:00 P.M., return 3:30 P.M. Families welcome. Bring

Color Eggs, discussion from 1:30

your own knife, cutting board, snacks, and drinks.

May 4	Saturday, Workday at the church
May 19	Picnic at Richard's house
May 30	Youth Group to Opportunity House

Offering Schedule:

April /	Caleb Krause and Nick Perella
April 14	Cayden Ciccone-Haas and Kelly Leiby
April 21 (6 am)	Volunteers Needed
April 21 (10:15 am)	Emily Bortz and Connor O'Neil
April 28	Elizabeth Schell and Dane Fegely
May 5	Gabby Webb and Sarah Grim
May 12	Carson Sheetz and Ashley DeLong
May 19	Maisy Kellum and Andrew Haas
May 26	Emma Heffner and Archer Scaffidi

CHURCH BOARD MEETING February 26, 2019

- 1. A new HP Printer was donated to the church.
- 2. Yes We CAN! Challenge to the congregation to contribute 1,000 cans of vegetables, fruit, meat, and fish during the Lenten season for Friend Inc. pantry.
- 3. The Mortgage Completion Ceremony will be held on May 5th at Janelle's. More details as they are available.

- 4. Memorials have been designated to the building fund. With the completion of the mortgage, all memorials will now go into the church fund.
- 5. A new building use form was approved.
- 6. We will again participate in the Kutztown University Designathon.
- 7. The financial audit for July December 2018 is complete.

SENIOR FELLOWSHIP GROUP

The Senior Fellowship Group will meet **April 22**nd at 12 noon. Persons attending should bring a bag lunch. Dessert and beverages will be provided. Games will provide entertainment for the afternoon. Guests are always welcome.



PRAYER SHAWL



Comforting wraps are still available to all who are in need. Please alert the church office or talk to Loretta Flicker or Karen Howard if you or someone you know would benefit from this ministry.

MENTOR PROGRAM

The Good News Committee is initiating a program to welcome new members and visitors. "Mentors" will greet visitors and offer assistance to acquaint them with the church and its activities and programs. "Mentors" will work with the pastor to identify interests and assist newcomers by spreading the "Good News" about Zion's. Additional congregational members who might like to serve in this program should contact any member of the Good News Committee: Linda Ballew-Johnson, Melissa Armstrong, Lisa Bartera, Liz Jones, Nancy Fulton, Ray Schell, Mandy Graff, Jacob Walker, Casey Haas.

FROM THE MAILBOX

Hi Zion's Church!

Thank you so much for your recent delivery of soup and cookies. Thanks for continuing to think of our clients.

क्र

New Journey Community Outreach, Inc.

Zion's Union Church Maxatawny,

On behalf of the Borough of Kutztown, I would like to extend a thank you to Zion's Union Church for purchasing and planting three sycamore trees along the dog dark in the Kutztown Park. Your donation and effort to help keep our park beautiful is greatly appreciated.

Kevin J. Snyder, Borough Council President

MYSTERY MEMBER

The final Youth Member, introduced last month, was Nick Perella, son of John and Renee Perella. His two siblings are Julia and Lauren.

This month the focus will be on two of our newer members. She was born in Reading and grew up on a farm with her parents and younger sister in the Fleetwood area. She drove the Farmall C and the Massey-Harris as she helped her Dad. Fleetwood High School is her Alma Mater and she received her BS and Master's degrees from Kutztown University. She also went on to graduate with a doctorate from Lehigh University. She worked as a first grade teacher for 20 years and then "graduated" to teaching Early Childhood Education in college for 15 years. He was also born in Reading but grew up in Blandon. Family vacations took place at the shore and in Canada. He, too, is a graduate of Fleetwood High School. He then went on to Drexel University and graduated with a BS in electrical engineering. He was employed by PPL for 40+ years.

The couple was married in 1974 in Fleetwood and she recalls that on their wedding day there was one heavy thunderstorm after another. However, it cleared up during the ceremony just in time for an outdoor reception. They spent their honeymoon in Lake Tahoe, NY.

They are the parents of one child who lives in West Chester, PA. She coaches and plays ice hockey. They are the "pawrents" of four cats who found them! Orie and Jackie are 12 years old, Eve showed up at Christmas and is at least 10 years old, and Newton is 6 years old.

Her hobbies are many and varied including women's Bible study, knitting, walking, aquatic classes, working in the yard with flowers and perennials, reading, and travel. Her Church involvement has been teaching and helping others. He enjoys exercise, playing guitar in a 60s/70s band, and working in the yard.

With so many interests this couple seems like two people we should get to know better. Introduce yourself to them when you figure out who they are!

QUIET DAYS

Quiet Days takes place **April 2nd and May 7th** from 9:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. at New Goshenhoppen UCC, 1070 Church Road, East Greenville. There is no registration, but a minimum donation of \$5.00 is requested. Bring a Bible, journal, pen, bag lunch. For more information contact Sue Wunderlich at sawmsw@dejazzd.com.

HONOR ROLL

If you would like a name included please email the church office or put a note in the secretary's mailbox in the Gathering Area of the church.

Katelyn DeLong

THEOLOGY WITH A TWIST

Theology with a Twist will be held **April 9th** at 7:00 P.M. at the Kutztown Tavern, 272 W. Main St., Kutztown. Theology with a Twist is free. Food and drink are available for purchase. Information: see facebook page Theology with a Twist; email theologywithatwist@outlook.com, or call 610-926-3907.

PA DUTCH SERVICE

On Sunday, **April 14**th, there will be a PA Dutch church service held at Zoar Lutheran Church, 560 Freeport Road, Lebanon, PA beginning at 2:30 P.M. The sermon will be delivered by Donald Breininger. Light refreshments will be served after the service.

KUTZTOWN KITCHEN

Usually the third Sunday of the month from 4:00 to 6:00 P.M. a Community Meal is held at Trinity Lutheran Church, 357 W. Main St., Kutztown. There is no cost. All are invited. Parking is in the rear of the church on Sacony Alley.

SPIRIT ON TAP – READING

Spirit on Tap will be held **April 23rd and May 21st** at 7:00 P.M. at the DoubleTree Hotel, 701 Penn St., Reading. The events are free and open to all. **April 23rd**, Dr. Spencer S. Stober will present "*A Change in the Weather*" – *Climate Change*. **May 21st**, David McConnell will present "*Sacred Music*". For more information contact Dr. Harry L. Serio at 610-944-7032, <u>HLSerio@aol.com</u>; Dr. Robert Stewart at 610-775-2836, rastheo1951@msn.com; or Dr. Stephen Ohnsman at ohnsman@comcast.net.

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SYNOD NEWS

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

Synod Assembly 2019 Freed in Christ for a New Day Saturday, June 1st, 8:30am-4:30pm Genetti Ballrooms Inn and Suites, Hazleton

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it! - Psalm 118:24

God said, "Let there be light"... God saw that the light was good... and God called the light, Day. - Genesis 1:1-5

Jesus answered... "I am the light of the world." - John 9:5



For 2019 our Synod Assembly is a one-day event - and what a difference a day can make! All are welcome and all congregations are called and empowered to send two voting members and any number of visitors, as together we do God's work: sharing life, love, faith and hope for the new days ahead, as the people of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod.

This year we celebrate our past and look to our future, as we strive in this living present and presence of our Lord Jesus Christ - whose Good News has freed us to

make this day and each day a new opportunity to give thanks, to worship, to pray, to dialogue, and to seek the good of our neighbors - all by the power of the Holy Spirit and the unconditional love of our great God, all because of what Christ has done for us.

We gather in a new place: Genetti Ballrooms Inn and Suites in Hazleton. Our co-workers in Christ in the Coal Region and the Pocono Mountains look forward to being our hosts. A one-day event means costs can be a bit lower this year. Registration fees for voting members are only \$100, while visitors this year will pay \$20, which covers the cost of our special luncheon celebration in honor of the 50th anniversary of the chartering of our Synod.

We will also have another way to save costs and paper, while keeping us all up-to-date, with a customized "Guidebook App" for Assembly 2019. With just a simple, secure download to your smart phone or tablet, you'll have instant access to all the documents and information needed, as well as vital and helpful announcements and guidance. The App is free and available to anyone, whether or not you can attend the Assembly. More information will be given in next month's Synod News, and at your upcoming Mission District Assemblies.

A registration packet will be mailed to all rostered leaders and information will be on our synod's website at www.godslove.org.

> God promises to shine on us the liberating light of Christ, to make us alive, to make this moment like a new morning, and to send us out in joy, peace and power.

> > Join us in June as we are

FREED IN CHRIST FOR A NEW DAY!

MEMBER UPDATES

Loss: Raymond L. Kulp

Anniversaries of Ordination

15 YEARS

Dana D Heckman-Beil Jean L Huber Katie E Lyon Maritza Torres Dolich Michael L Reist Anthony P Pagotto Virginia Anne Goodwin

25 YEARS

Elizabeth C Langensiepen Eugene C Zaiser Jeffrey G Bohan Louise E Williams Deborah Matern Graf Diana J Hill

40 YEARS

Samuel R Zeiser
Christian P Matthy
D Michael Bennethum
Donald J Schwartz
Edith B Roberts
John R Kuschel
Richard H Elliott
Roy H Koehler Jr
Sherrie L Sneed
Thomas F Irwin Jr

50 YEARS

Kenneth C Feinour Jr

55 YEARS

Arthur L Hahn Jr Donald P Beck Harry J Goos James C Papada John J Deisinger Thomas H Reinsel Thomas J Keener

60 YEARS

C David Godshall Dale E Sandstrom Elton P Richards Paul J Hoh

St. Luke, Allentown Muhlenberg College Partnership



ELL students - Nely is third from the left

St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church, located in center city, Allentown hosts an English Language Learning (ELL) program. Trott Nely Montina, a senior at Muhlenberg, coordinates and teaches in the program. Nely majors in Media & Communications, and minors in both Africana Studies, and Documentary Storymaking. He is a member of a number of professional and student organizations including serving as a tutor, Emerging Leaders, Track & Field, Tour Guide, Adult ELL Teacher & Coordinator. When he is not participating in extracurriculars or at school, Nely likes to draw. Plus, he enjoys playing basketball with friends or personally training peers at Muhlenberg.

Nely took over the position of the program from Jose Flores, who was part of Muhlenberg graduating class of 2016. After observing one class with Jose, Nely recognized the significance of the program. He could understand and relate to the ELL students, bncause he too had taken courses to learn English. In addition to supporting learning and developing better English skills among local residents, the program offers Nely the opportunity to connect and form lasting relationships with some of the locals in Allentown and the church community.

After graduating college, Nely plans to continue school in a MFA and/or PhD program in film and hopes to become a professor. He also is interested in the external and internal factors that hinder low income, high achieving students from attaining a profitable education. Nely understands the trials of being the first member of a family to go to college.; and he wants to provide low income, high achieving students with exposure to numerous resources, and access that would further their education.

65 YEARS

Robert F Sauers

70 Years

James B Miller John M Aurand



Synod News is published monthly by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA 2354 Grove Road, Allentown PA 18109; 610-266-5101. nepsinfo1988@gmail.com. View the full color edition online at http://nepssynod.org.

DID YOU KNOW

• Cayden Ciccone-Haas won second place for his "Fruits in Action!" Science Fair project at Kutztown Middle School.

CARD SHOWERS

We are listing those couples married 50 years or more and those people 70 years or older. If we are missing anyone, please call the church office.



April 1	Betty Mertz
April 6	Jeremiah Heffner
April 8	Joanne Stamm
April 10	Gladys Leibold
April 11	Irene Boyer
April 17	Ralph & Helen Noll, Sr. (65 wed)
April 18	Joseph Zajac
April 19	George & Irene Isamoyer (61 wed)
April 24	Marion Angstadt
April 27	Robert Leibold
May 1	Arlan Berger
May 11	Eleanor Nester
May 16	Loretta Flicker
May 20	Richard & Shirley Derr (58 wed)
May 24	Lennia Mertz
May 24	Harlow Bailey
May 28	Jean Bailey
May 28	Carol Toth
May 29	Ron Fulton
May 31	Irvin Miller

FROM THE RECORD BOOK

Raymond L. Kulp, 82, died March 5, 2019. Services were March 11, 2019 in Ludwick Funeral Home, Kutztown by Rev. Jeffrey J. Butz. Private interment was in Berks County Memorial Gardens.

OUR SYMPATHIES TO

... the



family of Anna Louise Miller. ... the family of Raymond Kulp

... the family of Sarah Henninger.

MISSION STATEMENT

Energized by the Spirit! Humbled by Christ's Grace! Working for God's glory!

UPCOMING HOLY COMMUNIONS

You are invited by Jesus Christ to this awesome feast of the Children of God.



April 7 Altar Holy Communion
April 18 Table Holy Communion
April 21 (6 am) Pew Holy Communion
April 21 (10:15 am) Pew Holy Communion
May 5 Pew Holy Communion

MAY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The next issue of the newsletter will come out the beginning of May. If you have any information to be included in the May newsletter, please have it in the church office by $\mathbf{April}\ \mathbf{15}^{th}$.