

CHURCH KEY

A NEWSLETTER THAT OPENS PEOPLE
TO THE MINISTRIES OF



ZION'S UNION
CHURCH MAXATAWNY

**329 Church Road
Kutztown, Pennsylvania
610-683-7485**

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

**June
2019**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Reminders | page 1 |
| The Pastor's Page | page 2, 3 |
| June and July Worship, Church Doors | page 3 |
| Eucharistic Ministry, "Yes We Can", Music Sunday, Ingathering | page 4 |
| Strawberry & Ice Cream Festival, Graduates | page 5 |
| Higher Education Fund, Summer Music | page 5 |
| Vacation Bible School, Youth Group News, Cancer Support Group | page 6 |
| Women In Zion, Mission of Good Shepherd | page 7 |
| Adult Fellowship Pot Luck/Music Night | page 7 |
| Senior Fellowship, Scrabble, Good News, Senior Ministry, Property | page 8 |
| Prayer Shawl, D.E.A.R., Church Board Meeting | page 9 |
| Honor Roll, Did You Know, DVD Needed | page 10 |
| Member Updates, Calling All Geeks!, Register Tapes | page 11 |
| Quiet Days, Kutztown Kitchen | page 11 |
| Synod News | page 12, 13 |
| Card Showers, Our Sympathies To | page 14 |
| Mission Statement, Holy Communions, Newsletter Deadline | page 15 |
| June Calendar, Worship Assistants, Board, Staff | Lilac Insert |

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 first floor of the church.

THE PASTOR'S PAGE



The month of June will be full of festive celebration at Zion's Church! Three of the six major festivals of the church year fall in June this year. Can you name all six of the major church festivals? They are:

Christmas Day, the Epiphany of our Lord, the Resurrection of our Lord (Easter Day), the Ascension of our Lord, the Day of Pentecost, and the Holy Trinity. It is the last three that will come in June, and they fall three weeks in a row—Ascension Sunday will be celebrated on June 2nd, the Day of Pentecost on June 9th, and Holy Trinity Sunday on June 16th.

The festival of the Ascension celebrates the return of the risen Christ to heaven following forty days of resurrection appearances to his disciples. Ascension technically falls on Thursday, May 30th (forty days after Easter), but we celebrate it as "Ascension Sunday" on the following Sunday. In many Christian countries around the world Ascension Day is a festival equal in importance to Christmas and Easter. In the U.S., Mennonite and Amish farmers will not be plowing their fields on this Thursday. On Ascension Sunday we will celebrate Christ's return to heaven where, as we say in the Apostles' Creed, "he is seated as the right hand of the Father" and reigns as king of heaven and earth. This also marks the day that Jesus handed on to his disciples the task of spreading the gospel and ministering in his name, and our worship service this day will conclude with a special "Rite for Affirming the Vocation of Christians in the World."

The Day of Pentecost is the centerpiece of our celebrations in June. The word "Pentecost," which means "fifty" in Greek, is the culmination of the fifty days of the Easter season. On this day we celebrate the fulfillment of Christ's promise to his disciples that he would not leave them alone, but send the Holy Spirit to be with them as their Counselor, Comforter, and Advocate. God's sending of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost is described in the book of Acts as being like "tongues of flame" that rested on the head of each apostle, and hence the traditional liturgical color for this day is red—the color of fire. So remember to wear something red to church on Pentecost and be on fire with the Holy Spirit! Here at Zion's we will also be celebrating Confirmation Sunday on this day, as six of our young people will affirm their faith in Christ and be confirmed in their faith. We pray that the Holy Spirit will fill them, inspire them, lead them, and guide them the rest of their lives.

The first Sunday after Pentecost is the last of the six major festivals—The Holy Trinity, also known as Trinity Sunday. This was the last of the major church festivals to be introduced into the church's calendar around the year 1,000 A.D. This is a unique festival in that it celebrates not an event in the

history of the church, but a church doctrine. The festival of the Holy Trinity is the most theological of the church’s festivals. On this day we acknowledge the mystery of the triune God who has revealed himself to us in three ways: as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We humbly confess on this day that while God has given us much revelation as to his nature and will, to fully know God is impossible. We strain to express our knowledge of God in the creeds of the Church, but ultimately God’s revelation in Jesus Christ shows us as much as we can know of God in this world. We know God most fully through his triune love for us, as revealed in the death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus. We end the “festive “half” of the church year celebrating God’s never-ending love.

Please make a commitment to be present in worship for all three of these major, but often overlooked festivals of the Church Year!

Looking forward to a festive and joyous month of June!

Pastor Jeff

JUNE AND JULY WORSHIP

| | | | |
|---------|--------------------------------|---------|--------------|
| June 2 | Ascension Sunday | SS 9:00 | church 10:15 |
| June 9 | Pentecost/Confirmation | SS 9:00 | church 10:15 |
| June 16 | Trinity Sunday | SS 9:00 | church 10:15 |
| June 23 | Second Sunday after Pentecost | SS 9:00 | church 10:15 |
| June 30 | Third Sunday after Pentecost | SS 9:00 | church 10:15 |
| July 7 | Fourth Sunday after Pentecost | SS 9:00 | church 10:15 |
| July 14 | Fifth Sunday after Pentecost | SS 9:00 | church 10:15 |
| July 21 | Sixth Sunday after Pentecost | SS 9:00 | church 10:15 |
| July 28 | Seventh Sunday after Pentecost | SS 9:00 | church 10:15 |

CHURCH DOORS

As part of our on-going commitment to providing a safe environment to joyfully worship the Lord, we will be keeping the front doors locked on Sunday mornings from 9:15 A.M. on. Greeters will be on duty to open the doors and welcome you to your morning worship. This recommendation came out of the intruder training by the Kutztown Police Department. Thank you, everyone, for your cooperation and understanding.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTRY

The Eucharistic Ministry Team made their visits after the April 7th Communion Service. They would like to thank those members who welcomed them into their homes to share the sacrament.



“YES WE CAN”

The Church Board would like to thank the entire congregation for making our food drive to benefit Friend, Inc. an overwhelming success. Our goal was collect 1,000 cans of fruits, vegetables, meat, and fish to help restock the shelves at Friend throughout the weeks of Lent. Our total collected turned out to be 1,143 cans. The Board would also like to thank Richard Haas for delivering all the donated items weekly. WAY TO GO ZION’S!!!



MUSIC SUNDAY THANK YOU

Thank you to Jewel Karaisz, The Back Row, Mary Beth Weidman, Maisy Kellum, Joe Karaisz and Connor O’Neil, The Haas Men, Randy Warmkessel, Lisa Krause, Kay and Craig Weidner, and the Sr. Choir for the special music on Music Sunday, May 12th. Also, thank you to Theresa Grim for coordinating all the special music for that day.



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
single serve size applesauce
fruit cups

peanut butter
canned tuna
granola bars

canned pasta
canned soup
fruit snacks

STRAWBERRY & ICE CREAM FESTIVAL

The annual Strawberry and Ice Cream Festival will be held **June 7th** from 6:00 to 9:00 P.M. Entertainment will be the Dogs of Faulkner Swamp. Help is needed Friday afternoon to clean strawberries and the night of the festival to serve food, bus tables, help in the kitchen, and clean up at 9:00 P.M. Donations of vegetable soup and baked goods will be greatly appreciated. If anyone has items they would like to donate or purchase for the Basket Raffle let Traci Gehringer know. If you can help in any way, contact Traci at 610-944-1818.



WHO ARE OUR GRADUATES?

Graduate Sunday will be held **June 16th** and we are compiling a list of our graduates for the year 2019, including December 2018 graduates. Please write down the name of your graduate, the school from which he or she is graduating or did graduate, their degree (if applicable), and their plans for the future (including name of college, trade school, any continuing education they may be planning, etc.). Place the information in the secretary's mail slot in the Gathering Area or call or email the church office with the above information **NO LATER THAN JUNE 9TH**. We do not want to miss anyone, so please help us out.



HIGHER EDUCATION FUND

As part of the Siegfried Bequest, a higher education fund has been established to offer 4% interest loans of up to \$1000.00 (based on the number of applicants and availability of funds) for a maximum of 4 years per student to those members of Zion's enrolled in a higher education program. A student loan application has been developed by the loan committee (Nancy Fulton and Grace Haas) and can be obtained from one of them or in the church office. Deadline is **June 15th**.



SUMMER MUSIC

Anyone interested in singing or playing instruments for the summer while the choir takes a break, see Theresa.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School is scheduled for the week of **July 29th** – **August 2nd**. The closing program will be **August 4th** during the 10:15 A.M. service. **A sign-up sheet will be included in the July/August newsletter.** If you are interested in helping, see Tara Berger. **PLEASE NOTE: All VBS volunteers 18 and older MUST have current Criminal and Child Abuse clearances done.**



YOUTH GROUP NEWS

*Youth Group meetings are open from age 10.
Schedules are on the upstairs bulletin board.*

Offering Schedule:

| | |
|---------|--|
| June 2 | Julia Perella and Andrew Schell |
| June 9 | Owen Shorette and Jonah Shorette |
| June 16 | Paige Carvalho and Steven Gehringer |
| June 23 | Ben Heffner and Mitchell Grim |
| June 30 | Christopher Blanchard and Kaylen Leiby |
| July 7 | Jewel Karaisz and Lexi Webb |
| July 14 | Adam Noll and Madison Held |
| July 21 | Anthony Blanchard and Zachary Haas |
| July 28 | Jonathan Weidman and Katelyn DeLong |



TO ALL CHURCH YOUTH AGES 12 AND UP – Our weekend camp has been scheduled for **October 25th to October 27th**. Please mark your calendars! More information will follow later.

THANK YOU – Our Youth Group wishes to thank the Fraternal Order of Eagles in Kutztown for their recent gift of \$500. This grant is given in consideration of the work in the community done by the Youth Group. These funds will be used toward our upcoming 2021 Gathering expenses.

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.*

June 10 12 noon, picnic & games. Bring pot luck.
July 8 1 P.M. Short meeting and service
Project – Blanket Ministry.

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



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.**

ADULT FELLOWSHIP POT LUCK/MUSIC NIGHT

On **July 20th**, the Adult Fellowship Committee will be hosting a night of food and music. We will begin with a Pot Luck Dinner at 5:30 P.M., followed by entertainers, Michael and Linda Hertzog at 6:30 P.M. Mike is a local musician who leads the "Mike Hertzog and The Blue Mountain Gang" band. He and his wife Linda also perform as a duo singing gospel, bluegrass, and country music. It will be a perfect way to spend a summer night.

We will be requesting \$5 per person, payable at sign-up, to defray the cost of the entertainers. Please plan on joining us and feel free to invite your friends. We encourage you to come for the meal but attendance to the show only is also an option. The sign-up sheet will be posted on the upstairs Bulletin Board in mid-June.

SENIOR FELLOWSHIP GROUP

The Senior Fellowship Group will meet **June 24th and July 22nd** 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.



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.

GOOD NEWS COMMITTEE

The mentoring program organized by the committee to welcome visitors and new members continues to be developing with the starting team of members of the congregation including the following: Enos Bleiler, Linda Ballew-Johnson, Kevin and LaRee Fegely, Loretta Flicker, Tim and Sue Haas, Jim and Mary Laub, Sharon Leiby, Dave and Ellie Merkel, Steve and Cindy O'Neil, and Richard and Jane Warmkessel. Members interested in joining this "welcome wagon" group are invited to place a note in the Good News mailbox. The team will offer assistance to acquaint visitors and new members by spreading the "Good News" about Zion's Union Church Maxatawny.

SENIOR MINISTRY COMMITTEE

The committee wants to thank Jackie Zeigler for sending greeting cards to members who are over 70 years of age to acknowledge their birthdays and anniversaries. Her efforts are appreciated by those who receive the cards. Jackie also creates the artistic posters on the easel where the cards are provided for use of the congregation. Thank you, Jackie!

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The Property Committee is looking for persons interested in joining the committee. See Randy Noll if interested or have any questions.

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.

D.E.A.R.

We are working on beginning a new program at Zion's to ensure the safety of our members in the event of extreme weather or an emergency situation. This will start with implementing a Neighborhood Shepherd Program.

Each Neighborhood Shepherd will be given a group of members within a small geographic location to help prepare before, and check on during, a natural or man-made emergency. Your shepherd will contact you to see if you have any special needs or challenges in the event of an emergency. Action plans will then be developed to prepare for these challenges. Also, a communication chain will be formed between the shepherds during an emergency to ensure everyone is safe. We hope that you will embrace this program by serving as a Neighborhood Shepherd or by becoming one of their flock.

CHURCH BOARD MEETING

April 30, 2019

- The Mortgage Payoff Celebration will be September 8, 2019 at Janelle's starting at 12:30 P.M.
- We are donating \$275 to the ELCA for the Pension Fund for Leaders.
- We will be purchasing a new light for the organ that illuminates across all the music.
- Lenten Offerings of \$353 will be sent to Friend, Inc. to augment the Yes We CAN! canned foods drive.
- Nate Haas is working with our college ages youth. This Easter, 10 were interested enough to be here in the Sunday School hour and talk about their future and interest here.
- D.E.a.R. – Disaster, Environment, and Resources – Zion's will host a joint SE and NE Conference on May 13th to establish areas where we can work together.

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

Julia Perella

Maisy Keluum

Andrew Schell

DID YOU KNOW

- Arden and Archer Scaffidi were pictured in the Northern Berks Patriot Item in an article about the Kutztown Dolphins Swim Team's upcoming season.
- Archer Scaffidi was selected for the 11-12 Boys Hardest Working Award at the end of season banquet for the Boyertown YMCA Navy Seals Swim Team. The award was voted on by the coaching staff.
- Arden Scaffidi was awarded as the high points earner for the 8 and Under Girls at the end of season banquet for the Boyertown YMCA Navy Seals Swim Team.
- Mary Laub was one of the local authors that read stories to the children at the Easter on the Farm event.
- Benjamin N. Haas was elected president for a one year term for the Kutztown School District Education Foundation.
- Lynn Silan was elected secretary for a one year term for the Kutztown School District Education Foundation.
- Emma Heffner, Kutztown National Honor Society member, was seen creating Activity Bags to be used by the Child Life Department at Lehigh Valley Hospital.
- Ashley DeLong participated in the 2019 Student Technology Showcase in Harrisburg. Her team integrated technology into a learning experience by creating a virtual reality tour of the Brandywine Heights Intermediate and Middle School.
- Benjamin Chapkovich plays boys volleyball for Brandywine Heights H.S.
- Mary Laub will be contributing PA German columns with an English translation to the Northern Berks Patriot Item.

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.

CALLING ALL GEEKS!

The Good News Committee needs help developing calendars that download to smartphones and tablets. What kind of help? None of us know how to do it! So, if you are able and willing to take on a challenge like this, contact Linda Ballew-Johnson either at church or by phone 484-553-1981.

REGISTER TAPES

Radcliffe's Super Value and Redner's Market provide a one percent rebate to Zion's Union Church Maxatawny based on receipts submitted to them during each year. **For the church to receive credit from Redner's Market, members and friends must obtain a card from the courtesy desk to enroll in the "Save A Tape Program". The card is presented at the register prior to checking out for the rebate to be valid as indicated by the "Save A Tape" notation on the receipt.** Radcliffe's does not require a card to enroll in the program. Tapes for both Radcliffe's and Redner's may be deposited in the boxes in the rear of the church.

QUIET DAYS

Quiet Days takes place **June 4th and July 2nd** 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. Information contact Sue at sawmsw@dejazzd.com.

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.

SYNOD NEWS

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

Saturday Evening at Zion, Tamaqua



Pr. Cindy White offers blessings to three companions at a Saturday service

One size does not fit all, especially when it comes to worship styles. Five years ago Zion, Tamaqua developed a Saturday evening service to

- provide an alternative time of worship for people who cannot get to a Sunday service, and
- provide an alternative style of worship for people who do not relate to the typical traditional high liturgy.

The service includes all the parts of a traditional service but in a more relaxed, informal style. Within a short period of time, we installed a digital projector and purchased the ProPresenter program to organize our worship and to allow us to add purchased music and subject matter videos to our service.

Because of its flexibility, the Saturday service has been adapted to include a special service for cancer survivors, our annual blessing of the animals, a vow renewal service around Valentine's Day, and a Christmas in July service complete with a full holiday dinner following the service. All the Saturday services begin with Godsightings, when people are encouraged to share where they have seen God at work in their lives during the past week.

In December 2017 we began live-streaming our Saturday and Sunday services through Boxcast. As of March 30, we have webcast 107 services. On our website we've reached 379 unique viewers who watched 1,491 times. We began posting on Facebook in March 2018. Since then we've had 2,522 viewers of Saturday services and 2,830 viewers of Sunday services. Services are archived for several weeks.

Correction: In the last edition of Synod News Pastor Carl Shankweiler was reported as having retired. Although Pr. Shankweiler has stepped down from synod staff, he is still the called pastor at Zion, Frackville and also working under contract with Trinity (Chapel), Buck Run.



Community Breakfast at St. John, Easton



A member of St. John's Lutheran Church in historic downtown Easton came to the Outreach Committee meeting and said, "Let's have a community breakfast." No agenda, no cost, just something to get people together. The committee mulled it over and said, "Let's do it!"

Breakfast had already become a speciality for Roger Ruggles. On Sunday mornings he cooked pancakes, French toast, and bacon/sausage; and he served them with fruit for any in the Sunday school before the 9:00 start time.



Roger decided to extend what he already knew; so he recruited some others to help cook: Mayor Sal Panto, and Roger's brother-in-law Dennis Greenleaf. And Roger also invited Bishop Zeizer, who was kind enough to attend and help fix the plates.

At the free meal firefighters, police officers, community leaders, Lafayette students, neighbors, some homeless, and parishioners gathered together to eat. Another church even sent volunteers to help serve. The volunteers served over a hundred people, and comments from the diners were very positive.

A simple breakfast became an example of hospitality in downtown Easton at its best!

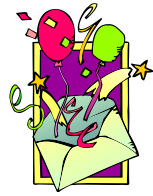


Synod News is published monthly by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA
2354 Grove Road, Allentown PA 18109; 610-266-5101. nepsinfo1988@gmail.com.

View the full color edition online at <http://nepasynod.org>.

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.



| | |
|---------|---------------------------------------|
| June 1 | Diane Herber |
| June 6 | Elaine Berger |
| June 7 | Mary Kutz |
| June 8 | Ron & Nancy Fulton (56 wed) |
| June 8 | Shirley Derr |
| June 12 | Betty Faust |
| June 15 | Jean Kemp |
| June 15 | Eva Christman |
| June 15 | Guerin & Eleanor Nester (56 wed) |
| June 19 | Carol Bennecoff |
| June 23 | Rev. Willis & Sylvia Heckler (57 wed) |
| June 24 | Richard Derr |
| June 24 | George & Sandra Leiby (52 wed) |
| June 25 | John & Betty Mertz (64 wed) |
| July 2 | Richard Warmkessel |
| July 6 | Nancy Fulton |
| July 10 | Sandra Leiby |
| July 12 | Dianne Angstadt |
| July 13 | Carolyn Wiltrout |
| July 14 | Gloria Haas |
| July 15 | Arlan & Elaine Berger (52 wed) |
| July 18 | William Howard |
| July 19 | Janet Geiger |
| July 21 | Beatrice Bennecoff |
| July 21 | Clair Seidel |
| July 22 | William & Marilyn Bird (58 wed) |

OUR SYMPATHIES TO

... the family of John Goides.

... the family of Judy Harmon.

“Faith is to believe what we do not see; the reward of this faith is to see what we believe.”

—St. Augustine



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.



June 2

Pew Holy Communion

June 9

Altar Holy Communion

July 7

Altar Holy Communion

JULY/AUGUST NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The next issue of the newsletter will come out the beginning of July. Please note that this is a **combined July/August** newsletter. If you have any information to be included in the July/August newsletter, please have it in the church office by **June 15th**.