



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

**November
2022**

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<i>Seeds of Zion</i>	Lilac Insert

REMINDERS

- ◆ The cost for a vase of flowers is \$20.00 and the cost to be a bulletin sponsor is \$8.00. Payment may be given to Jane Warmkessel or put the money in an envelope with your name, date, and what you are paying for 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 regular 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 Mary Laub at 610-248-2801.
- ◆ Sports cleats are not allowed in the church.
- ◆ Refreshments should be kept on the first floor of the church.

NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER WORSHIP

November 6	22 nd Sunday after Pentecost	SS 9:00	church 10:15
November 13	23 rd Sunday after Pentecost	SS 9:00	church 10:15
November 20	Christ the King	SS 9:00	church 10:15
November 27	First Sunday of Advent	SS 9:00	church 10:15
December 4	Second Sunday of Advent	SS 9:00	church 10:15
December 11	3 rd Advent/Christmas Pageant	SS 9:00	church 10:15
December 18	4 th Advent/Choir Musicales	SS 9:00	church 10:15
December 24	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service		7:30 P.M.
December 25	Christmas Day		church 10:15

ORGAN RESTORATION UPDATE as of October 1, 2022

Total Restoration Cost - \$346,000

Designated Memorials & Estates Received - \$48,410.13

Donations Received - \$94,291

Investments Used for Expenses - \$100,570

Checking Account Money Used for Expenses - \$23,000

Investment Gains - \$58,000

Total Funds Into Organ Restoration Fund - \$324,671.13

PAVING PROJECT as of October 1, 2022

Estimated Cost - \$46,000

Monies received - \$17,200 (donation)

\$ 200 (Memorial designation)

\$ 2,445 (Apple Dumpling Sale)

Total received - \$19,845

READERS, USHERS, GREETERS, SECURITY

Schedules for readers, ushers, greeters, and security are on the upstairs bulletin board. A schedule is also included in each newsletter.

FLOWER/BULLETIN BOOK

The Flower and Bulletin sign-up book is available in the Gathering Area. Sign up for those special dates. You may also call the church to sign up or leave a message on the answering machine. The new book for 2023 will be ready shortly.



PLEASE USE PARKING LOTS

The township does not want us parking on the street, so please only park in our parking lots. There is also a secondary lot behind the church next to the cemetery garage which you may use.

SERVICE VIDEOS

A video recording of our worship service will be uploaded to our church website (zionsunion.org) by early Sunday afternoon and can be viewed for the rest of the week. Prior services can be viewed on Youtube — type “Zion’s Union Church” into the Youtube search bar.

INGATHERING

On the first Sunday of each month the Mission Outreach Committee will continue to collect items to fill backpacks with food staples for needy children and their families in the area. 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
single serve cereal
oatmeal packets

peanut butter
canned tuna
granola bars

fruit cups
canned soup
fruit snacks

TIME CHANGE

Daylight Savings Time ends **November 6th**. Don’t forget to turn your clocks back one hour before going to bed Saturday evening.



HELPING HAND FUND

On **November 6th**, baskets will be available in the back of the church and the Gathering Area for any donations to the Helping Hand Fund. The Helping Hand Fund of Zion's was established to provide financial support for individuals in the congregation who may be experiencing unexpected challenges in their lives. Contributions received go to replenish the fund.



THANKSGIVING SERVICE

It was decided **NOT** to have a Thanksgiving service this year.

CHURCH HISTORY BOOK

A sign-up sheet is on the upstairs bulletin board for anyone interested in purchasing the Church History Book started by Rev. Willis Heckler and completed by Rev. Butz. The cost will be \$15.00. No date for the arrival of the book has been announced.

POINSETTIA DISPLAY

We will be decorating our church with poinsettias for Christmas. The cost will be \$10.00 per plant. Please put the tear-off sheet and your check or cash for the poinsettias in an envelope marked "Poinsettias" and place it in the offering plate or give to Karen Warmkessel. You may also mail the sign-up sheet and payment to the church. Any checks should be made out to Zion's Union Church Maxatawny. Deadline for orders is **November 20th**.



POINSETTIA SIGN UP

NAME

NUMBER OF POINSETTIAS: RED..... WHITE

IN HONOR OF or IN MEMORY OF (*circle one*)

.....

CEMETERY CLEAN UP



ALL flower/wreath arrangements must be removed from the cemetery by the 3rd Saturday of November. The only exceptions will be the arrangements attached to the top of the tombstones. Cemetery clean-up will take place **November 19th** (weather permitting).



BETHANY'S BRIGHTER FUTURE FUND

On **November 27th** and **December 4th** baskets will be in the back of the church and the Gathering Area of the church for any monetary donations for the Bethany Children's Home Brighter Future Fund to purchase items for the residents for Christmas.



ANGEL TREE PROJECT

The Sunday School will once again have their Angel Tree Project. We will also be taking monetary donations which will be sent to the Salvation Army for the sole purpose of purchasing gifts. Gifts can be put in a gift bag. Return date to be determined. **Watch for more information in the bulletin.**



CHOIR MUSICALE

Anyone interested in performing a vocal solo or instrument for the Choir Musicale on **December 18th**, contact Theresa Grim no later than **December 1st**.

SENIOR MEAL

The Youth Group will be hosting a senior meal at 6:15 P.M. prior to the Advent Social on **December 4th**. If you are interested in attending, please leave Richard Haas or Sharon Leiby know.

ADVENT SOCIAL

The Youth Group will be having their Advent Social on **December 4th** at 7:00 P.M. The congregation is welcome to join them for some fun and fellowship during the Advent season.



NUTS

The Youth Group will once again be selling nuts for the holiday season. Watch the bulletin for the dates and prices.



LIVE NATIVITY

The Sunday School's Live Nativity will be held **December 10th**. Shows will be held every ½ hour beginning at 5 P.M. Anyone from 3rd grade through adult is welcome to help. Anyone interested in helping out, contact Sue Haas at 610-683-6099.



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Our annual Congregational Meeting to elect Board Members and to approve the annual operating budget will be held **December 11th** immediately following the worship service. Please consider attending this important meeting.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PAGEANT

Please join us for the Sunday School Christmas Pageant during the church service on **December 11th**. The Sunday School is looking for a director for this year's pageant. Please see Tim or Sue Haas if interested.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

The Church Board has decided that this year we will only have one Christmas Eve service. The service will be a candlelight service that will begin at 7:30 P.M.



NEW MISSION OUTREACH PROJECT

Winter time is coming fast and that means cold nights for people in need. A few churches in the area are working together to collect plastic grocery bags and weaving them into mats for the homeless to lay on instead of the concrete. It is a huge project but it will benefit a lot of people and the environment. If you have any extra plastic bags you can spare, please deposit them in the box in the Gathering Area. If you have any questions, please contact Tracey Lutz at 610-818-5001 or sunshine71a@hotmail.com.

WOMEN IN ZION

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

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| November 13 | Sunday, Thankoffering Service. |
| November 14 | Meeting and “Thankfulness in the Bible”, Holiday Favors for Meals on Wheels at 1:00 P.M. |
| December 10 | Pack cookies at 9:00 A.M. |
| December 11 | Deliver cookies before and after the service. |
| December 12 | Cookie Exchange, Christmas Games, Ornament Exchange at 1:00 P.M. |



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

SENIOR FELLOWSHIP GROUP

The Senior Fellowship Group will meet **November 28th** and **December 26th** at 12 noon. Persons attending should bring a bag lunch. Dessert and beverages will be provided. Games 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.

YOUTH GROUP

Activity Schedule:

November 6	1:00-3:00 P.M. Pumpkin carving and nut sale handouts
November 20	1:00-3:00 P.M. Practice for Advent Social
November 27	1:00-3:00 P.M. Practice for Advent Social
December 4	5:00 P.M. Practice for Advent Social
December 4	6:15 P.M. Senior Meal
December 4	7:00 P.M. Advent Social
December 9	6:30 P.M. Pack nut orders
December 11	Pick up nut orders (for those not taken Friday night)
December 15	4:30-7:30 P.M. Friend, Inc. – assist with food and gift distribution
January 8	Bowling



Our usual times are 1:00-3:00, Youth Group updates are announced during the Sunday School opening and posted in the bulletin
Schedule for January-May 2023 coming by year end

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.

MUTUAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE

The church is seeking volunteers to serve on the Mutual Ministry Committee. Please see Nancy Fulton if you are interested.

CHILDREN'S SERMONS

There have been several requests, by the congregation, to have a Children's Sermon every week. We are looking for volunteers that are willing to do the Children's Sermon on a rotating basis. See Traci Gehringer to volunteer.

CHURCH BOARD MEETING

September 27, 2022

1. Supply pastors/lay leaders have been arranged through October.
2. Search Committee is targeting the end of October to have the congregation profile ready to publish.
3. Due to the rising cost of paper, bulletin sponsorship will be \$10 a dedication or \$20 a week if both dedications are exercised.
4. The board approved 8 students for Confirmation Class: 12 year old - Katelyn Berger, Samantha Hassler, Lauren Perella, Arden Scaffidi, Nicholas Schmoyer, Quintin Zoccola, 11 year old – Bradley Hassler, Lee Miller.
5. People who are board members, ushers, or greeters will be asked to wear name tags.
6. We are looking for all-in-one DVD players. Many of us have ones we used to entertain children on long car rides and have no need for them anymore. Folks that are shut-in with no access to the internet could use them to view the DVDs. If you have any, please let Linda Ballew-Johnson or Ray Schell know.
7. The parking lot resurfacing will begin the first week of October. It is not expected to interfere with any services.
8. The apple dumpling sale will support the parking lot resurfacing. As of the meeting 278 orders were received.

DID YOU KNOW

- Julia Perella won the Presence and Performance Award at this year's Berks County Outstanding Young Woman Program held at Kutztown High School.
- Maisy Kellum recently competed in the Berks County Tennis Championship in both single and double tennis matches.
- Dave Ehrig received the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania/The House of Representatives Citation from the Honorable House Representative Ann Flood in Nazerath. The event was part of the Jacobsburg Historical Society's 50th Anniversary Celebration. He served as past president, prolific writer, video host and narrator for the JHS 'Boulton Historic Site's:Where History Lives;' editor of "Muzzle Blasts" magazine. He was instrumental in the House and Senate passing a resolution and Act 73 declaring it a new PA State Symbol.

LIVING WITH LOSS

A six-week Living With Loss Support Group will be held Wednesday evenings beginning **November 2nd** from 6:00 to 7:30 P.M. at Ludwick Funeral Homes and Cremation Care, Inc., 333 Greenwich Street, Kutztown. The group will be facilitated by Mary Ann Hamm, Bereavement & Grief Counselor. There is no cost to attend the the series of sessions and is open to anyone that has experienced a loss. Please contact Carol at 610-682-2434 to register or if you have any questions.

REJOICING SPIRITS WORSHIP SERVICE

Rejoicing Spirits of Eastern Berks County service is at 3:00 P.M. **Sunday, November 6, 2022** at St. Paul's UCC, 47 S. Whiteoak St. Kutztown, PA. All are welcome at this no-shush worship that enriches the lives of all people, especially those with disabilities. Rejoicing Spirits includes music and joyous singing, brief, meaningful messages, and the chance to connect with others. Learn more at rejoicingspirits.org or contact Karen Raudenbush at raudyk@gmail.com or phone at 610-608-8290.

FROM THE MAILBOX

Your gift of \$100.00 from the Harvest Home collection will go a long way towards helping individuals and families through out northeastern Berks County. You are helping to alleviate hunger, mitigate financial crisis, provide money management education, job placement assistance, and other life sustaining support including referrals to outside agencies such as Safe Berks, Family Guidance Center, and Maternal and Family services.



With Sincere Thanks and Deep Respect,
Jim Reece, Executive Director, Friend, Inc.

SEXTON NEEDED

The church is in need of a person to take over the sexton position at the church. Contact Liz Jones or Nancy Fulton if you are interested.

PRAYER REQUESTS

We ask God's blessings upon those who are ill, recovering from surgery, homebound, or have asked for our prayers:

David Kamp, Lori Arndt, Barry Ziegler, Ellie Merkel, Lennia Mertz, Randy Warmkessel, Owen Shorette, Elaine Heffner, Marilyn & Bill Bird, Kay Weidner, Walter Dietrich, John & Marlene Costello, Betty Dietrich, Beatrice Bennecoff, Barry Miller, Carolyn Wiltrout, Arlan Berger, Marian Stettler, Bill & Karen Howard, Joe Karaisz, Anna Bortz, Ralph & Helen Noll, Mary Kutz, Karen Weaver, Sylvia Heckler, Gladys Leibold, Donna Slotter, Leora Haas, Donna VanDeCar, Owen Lamendola, Rosemary LaFratte, Ukrainians, Randy Schlegel, Karen Bower, Kevin Moyer, Joanne Pauley, Mary Jane Schlenker, Sarah Johnson, Elia, Bill Rinear, Michael Zimmerman, Regen Zimmerman, Ian Miller, Karen Ames, Elaine Seaman, Victoria Slotter, Jo Corrado, Donna Rabert, Tom Seifert, Rayann Roth, Lisa & Chris Szarko, Arthur Sell, Lorraine Miller, Renee Wolfe, Christopher Mercardo, Kim Markham, Valerie, Mary Fox, Sue Zimmerman, Michele Rodriguez, Christy Ryan, Frank Knight, Betty Houck, Judy Redman, Mary, Betsy, Gary Sell, family of Beatrice Bennecoff, family of Glance Moatz, family of Dennis Miller, family of Anna Druckenmiller, family of Jeanette Fegely, family of William Gehman.

If anyone can be removed from this list, please notify the church office.

If you know of other persons in need of prayer and you wish to have a name included on the list please email the church, call the church office, or leave a message on the answering machine. If you want a name included on Zion's Prayer Chain call Mary Laub at 610-248-2801.

OUR SYMPATHIES TO

... the family of Bertha Bennecoff.	... the family of Glance Moatz.
... the family of Anna Druckenmiller.	... the family of Dennis Miller.
... the family of Jeanette Fegely.	... the family of William Gehman.

MEMBER UPDATES

Losses: Fegely, Jeanette L.
 Gehman, William F.

SYNOD NEWS

NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD, ELCA

What's happening with Growing Young?

Growing Young is an initiative lived out in the NEPSynod, congregations, and individuals' ministry. Growing Young was our synod assembly theme in 2021, but it is not a once-and-done theme. Growing Young is something we strive to accomplish together, continually.

Congregations throughout our synod have been diving deep into the journey of Growing Young. Some are just beginning and exploring the concept whereas others are already incorporating it within their congregation and even helping beginners to gain the whole Growing Young experience. In case you are new to Growing Young, Growing Young is a movement in the NEPA Synod and throughout the greater ELCA and is based on a book of the same name. The book studied churches of all sizes, denominations, and locations throughout the country that are maintaining and engaging youth and young adults in their congregations. What does Growing Young really look like though?

Growing Young will look different for every congregation and the journey to get there will not be the same. Devoting time and commitment to the 6 core characteristics is the only way for your congregation to work towards a Growing Young outcome. These commitments orbit around a Jesus-centered community and help us truly become the church. Now is the time to pass down leadership and pastoral roles to those eager to assist and prioritize youth & young families everywhere. Now is the time to focus on warm relationships and empathize with today's youth. Now is the time to be the best neighbor and share Jesus' message seriously.

Is your congregation ready to Grow Young? Resources are available to help guide your community to the Growing Young mindset. For more information, visit godslope.org/growingyoung or by reaching out to the Growing Young coordinator, Stacey Burke at staceyenepsynod.org or at 610-266-5101 ext. 10.

Let's Grow Young together!

COMING UP:

Nov. 5: WeLove

Nov. 12: Faith Formation Saturdays

Nov. 14-15: Bishop Conference



Visit us:

<http://www.Godslove.org/>

JUNE
1-3

SYNOD
ASSEMBLY
2023



SAVE
THE
DATE

"GIVE THANKS TO
THE LORD, FOR
GOD IS GOOD;
GOD'S LOVE
ENDURES
FOREVER."
1 CHRONICLES 16:34



Faith in Action

Hope's Table

A Synodically Authorized
Worshipping Community in
Reading, where the community
comes together to eat, worship,
and build relationships. A
community fostered in the
poorest neighborhood of the
city. It all started as a small
gathering but has grown into a
comfortable place for people
who wouldn't otherwise feel
comfortable within the walls of
a church.

Tuesdays 5:30PM

601 N Front St

Reading PA

Pastor Mary Wolfe

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 or email the church office.



November 1	Richard Haas
November 3	David Kamp
November 6	Donald Mertz
November 6	Kay Mertz
November 6	Fay Kamp
November 6	Carl & Loretta Flicker (57 wed)
November 10	Richard Weigle
November 10	Barry Ziegler
November 14	Nancy Held
November 14	Karen Howard
November 16	Barry & Ann Miller (54 wed)
November 17	Leora Haas
November 22	Dale Grim
December 14	Judy Koller
December 16	Diana Gehman
December 17	Elaine Silliman
December 17	Jane Warmkessel
December 18	Michael & Evelyn Dietz (56 wed)
December 25	Sylvia Heckler
December 26	Michael Dietz

FROM THE RECORD BOOK

FUNERALS: *Jeanette L. Fegely*, 91, of Kutztown, died October 2, 2022 in West Reading, PA. Service was October 8, 2022 in Zion's Union Church Maxatawny by Vicar Jeremiah T. Heydt. Inurnment was in Zion Maxatawny Union Cemetery, Kutztown.

William F. Gehman, 75, of Topton, died October 6, 2022 in Allentown, PA. Service was October 10, 2022 in Ludwick Funeral Homes and Creamation Care, Inc., Kutztown by Rev. Stephen Hollinger. Interment was in Topton Union Cemetery, Topton.



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.

November 6

Pew Holy Communion

December 4

Altar Holy Communion

December 24 (7:30 PM)

Pew Holy Communion



DECEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The next issue of the newsletter will come out the beginning of December. If you have any information to be included in the newsletter, please have it in the church office by **November 15th**.