



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

**October
2022**

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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.

OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER WORSHIP

October 2	17 th Sunday after Pentecost	SS 9:00	church 10:15
October 9	18 th Sunday after Pentecost	SS 9:00	church 10:15
October 16	19 th Sunday after Pentecost	SS 9:00	church 10:15
October 23	20 th Sunday after Pentecost	SS 9:00	church 10:15
October 30	21 st Sunday after Pentecost	SS 9:00	church 10:15
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 23	Thanksgiving Eve		7:00 P.M.
November 27	First Sunday of Advent	SS 9:00	church 10:15

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.



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.

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.

ORGAN RESTORATION UPDATE as of September 1, 2022

Total Restoration Cost - \$346,000

Designated Memorials & Estates Received - \$48,410.13

Donations Received - \$93,436

Investments Used for Expenses - \$100,570

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

Investment Gains - \$58,000

Total Funds Into Organ Restoration Fund - \$323,816.13

PAVING PROJECT as of September 1, 2022

Estimated Cost - \$71,385.00

Monies received - \$17,000 (donation)

\$ 200 (Memorial designation)

\$ 2,445 (Apple Dumpling Sale)

Total received - \$19,645

BIBLE STUDIES TO CONTINUE

“First Tuesday Bible Study” will meet on the first Tuesday of every month from 6:30-8:00 P.M. There will no longer be First Monday Bible Studies. Our “Mid-Week Reflections” will also continue to meet on Wednesday mornings at 11:00 A.M.

SEARCH COMMITTEE

THANK YOU to all the individuals who responded to the call out for DATA to help power the Search Committee. We had two excellent church meetings, and also received many calls and emails. Your input is GREATLY appreciated. During the month of October, the search Committee will be digesting all that information to prepare the church’s profiles for Synod and Conference. We continue to ask for your prayers for our church and the Search Committee through this time of transition.

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

NEIGHBORS IN NEED

Sunday, **October 2nd**, we will be receiving the Neighbors In Need special mission offering. NIN is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian

Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. NIN grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. The 2022 NIN campaign will focus on economic justice issues.



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. I will give everyone more information as it comes available. 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.

REJOICING SPIRITS WORSHIP SERVICE

The first Rejoicing Spirits of Eastern Berks County service is at 3:00 P.M. **Sunday, October 2, 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.

APPLE DUMPLING FUNDRAISER

We will be having an apple dumpling fundraiser to help offset the cost to repair the parking lot. The dumplings are \$5.00 each. Tickets will be on sale before and after the church service. Please feel free to ask family and friends if they would like some! Pick up of the dumplings will be at the church on **October 22nd** (time to be announced). There will be a need for volunteer helpers the week of 10/16. See Traci Gehringer for further details.



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).



TRAYS

There were some trays left over from the O'Neil funeral luncheon. If you or someone you know is missing one, please retrieve it in the kitchen. Also, we have some plastic serving platters, with lids, left over from the Retirement Luncheon. Anyone interested, may also pick them up in the kitchen.

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. If you can't come to church and would like to sign up for a book, call the church office.

CHURCH BOARD MEETING

August 30, 2022

1. Since we no longer have a pastor on staff, Rev. Jeremiah Heydt will serve as emergency pastor for Hospital visits and funerals. Contact Karen Warmkessel in the church office or Nancy Fulton if you need his services.
2. Sunday supply pastors have been arranged for the month of September. October is in the planning stages.
3. We are looking for volunteers to serve on the Mutual Ministry committee. Contact Nancy Fulton if you are interested.
4. We will be collecting plastic grocery bags. The recycled bags will be turned into blankets. See Tracey Lutz if you have questions.
5. We will be having an apple dumpling sale on October 22nd. Watch the bulletin for details when we will begin selling tickets. Proceeds will go to the parking lot paving project.
6. Both the monthly Bible Study and the weekly Reflections Bible Study will continue. We are contacting possible leaders for both. Keep your eye on the bulletin for more information.
7. Traci Gehringer is looking for volunteers for Children Sermons. Please see her if interested.
8. Parking lot - Complicated permit issues if we want to expand the parking lot will likely delay the project until next year. The result of the issues would cost not only time but also additional money for engineering and architect plan submittal. Therefore, the board voted to decrease the scope of the parking lot paving and to pave the existing lot only.
9. The History of Zion's Union Church is at the printer. Started by Rev. Heckler and completed by Rev. Butz, the history book is 180 pages of the whole story - including pictures. We are so very grateful to Pastor Jeff for completing the meticulous work started by Pastor Heckler. The history will be available soon for \$15.

CHILDREN'S SERMONS

The Church Board has decided that we will continue having a Children's Sermon on Sunday mornings. Anyone interested in doing a Children's Sermon should contact Traci Gehringer.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Youth Group



Camp

Camp has been scheduled for the weekend of **October 21st – 23rd**. Registration forms are available from Sharon or Richard to be returned as soon as possible. We will leave the church at 6:00 P.M. on Friday night or those who wish to come directly to the camp can arrive when schedules allow. We know there's lots going on, so plan to attend when you can anytime Friday, Saturday, or Sunday. There will be something going on whenever people arrive. We do request that you fill out a registration form and inform us of the times you expect to arrive and depart. Anyone not coming to the Friday night or Saturday sessions can still come on Sunday to join in the worship service and all eligible youth and parents are welcome for Sunday lunch whether you made it to any of the sessions or not. Camp is open to youth ages 12 through 18.

WOMEN IN ZION

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

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| October 2 | Return full soup containers. |
| October 10 | Meeting, Pollyanna reveal, choose new Pollyanna, pot luck, games at 12 noon. |
| November 13 | Sunday, Thankoffering Service. |
| November 14 | Meeting and "Thankfulness in the Bible", Holiday Favors for Meals on Wheels at 1:00 P.M. |



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

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.

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.

SENIOR FELLOWSHIP GROUP

The Senior Fellowship Group will meet **October 24th and November 28th** 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 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, Jeanette Fegely, Bill Gehman, 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, Donna Cordier, Lloyd & Nancy, Ukrainians, Randy Schlegel, Karen Bower, Kevin Moyer, Joanne Pauley, Mary Jane Schlenker, Sarah Johnson, Juliana Leshner, Bill Rinear, Michael Zimmerman, Regen Zimmerman, Elia, Beverly Keller, Ian Miller, Karen Ames, Elaine Seaman, Victoria Slotter, Jo Corrado, Donna Rabert, Tom Seifert, Deb, 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 Loretta Brown Lansing.

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.

MUTUAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE

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

FROM THE MAILBOX

I wish to express my heartfelt thanks to everyone who has been and who continues praying for me during this trying time. As many of you know Cancer is extremely scary. So, I'm taking a day at a time and praying for the best outcome. Thanks again for everything.

Ellie Merkel



GUEST MINISTERS AND LAY LEADERS

Supply pastors recommended by the Conference and the Synod will lead worship services until we have an interim pastor. Members of the congregation have also volunteered to lead worship and provide the message. Anyone who is willing to assist the congregation with worship services may let Karen know.

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.

October 8	Patti Derr
October 13	Paul Heffner
October 14	Richard & Jane Warmkessel (55)
October 16	Jeanette Fegely
October 22	Grace Haas
October 23	William & Karen Howard (57 wed)
October 23	Mary Laub
October 26	Larry Stamm
October 30	Richard & Grace Haas (57 wed)
October 30	Jean Harter
October 31	Eleanor Merkel
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

FROM THE RECORD BOOK

NEW MEMBERS: Patricia A. Haas
 Marilyn I. Quinter

OUR SYMPATHIES TO

... the family of Loretta Brown Lansing.



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.

October 2 Altar Holy Communion

November 6 Pew Holy Communion



NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

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