



THE 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

**September
2017**

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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 new 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



Ever since I started the Monday Morning Reflections class, a number of people asked if I would ever have an evening Bible Study. Well, now I am! "First Tuesday" Bible Study will begin the evening of September 5th, and we will meet the first Tuesday of every month from 6:30 to 8:30 P.M. (The Monday

Morning Reflections class, which is a study of the prior Sunday's scripture readings, will continue).

"First Tuesday" Bible Study will be a slightly watered down, but more in-depth version of the Bible courses that I have taught at Penn State University for the past fifteen years. I led a similar Bible study at my previous parish that was very well received. We will read together the most important passages in the Bible beginning with the book of Genesis and give a "walk-through" of the entire Bible. There will be no homework and no outside reading assignments, so don't be intimidated if you find it hard to read the Bible on your own. The only "homework" is to bring your questions. Don't be afraid to ask *anything* you ever wanted to know about the Bible or Christianity!

First Tuesday will be an invaluable opportunity to *really* dig into the Bible. How many people can say that they know what the Bible is all about? *Really* all about? Modern science and historical and literary analysis has enabled scholars in the past century to make many amazing discoveries about the Bible that have rivaled the advances in many other fields of knowledge. And we will utilize the tools and findings of the best modern biblical scholarship to come to some amazing new understandings of the ancient writings that became our Holy Scripture.

On a personal note, teaching has always been my first love (my first career out of college was teaching 9th grade Earth & Space Science at Southern Wilson Junior High in Sinking Spring) and my love of teaching has carried over in to my career as a pastor. I have been an adjunct professor of World Religions and Philosophy at the Penn State Berks and Lehigh Valley campuses for over fifteen years, taught many Bible studies at my previous parish, and taught various adult classes for the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod of the ELCA and for Northampton Community College's adult education department. So, I have a wealth of experience that I will bring to bear in this class and am *very* excited about bringing in-depth Bible study to Zion's Union Church Maxatawny!

This class will be especially valuable for Sunday School teachers, and all our teachers are urged to attend. Also, invite your family, neighbors, and friends. The class is open to anyone. I truly hope and pray that as many as possible will take advantage of this opportunity to attain a sound knowledge of

the Bible, which is invaluable to any educated citizen of our country today.

Hope to see you all on first Tuesdays!

“FIRST TUESDAY” BIBLE STUDY

**(Everything you always wanted to know about the Bible
but were afraid to ask.)**

Have you ever wanted to know what the Bible is all about? *Really* all about? Who really wrote it? Did all the miracles in the Bible really happen? Did a donkey really talk? Did Jonah really get swallowed by a whale? Was the earth really created in seven days? Is there really a hell?

To answer these and many other very big questions, Pastor Jeff is starting a new Bible Study that will meet the **first Tuesday of every month from 6:30 to 8:30. The class will begin on Tuesday, September 5th.**

“First Tuesday” Bible Study will be a slightly watered down, but more in-depth version of the Bible classes that Pastor Jeff has taught at Penn State University for the past fifteen years. We will read together the most important passages in the Bible beginning with Genesis and provide a “walk-through” of the entire Bible. There will be no homework and no outside reading assignments, so don’t be intimidated if you find it hard to read the Bible on your own. The only “homework” is to bring your questions. Don’t be afraid to ask anything you ever wanted to know about the Bible or Christianity! We will utilize the latest scientific and historical methods of examining the Bible to find out what it *really* says (and does *not* say!).

This class will be especially valuable for Sunday School teachers, and all our teachers are urged to attend. Also, invite your family, neighbors, and friends. The class is open to anyone and will be an invaluable opportunity for everyone to attain a sound knowledge of our Holy Scriptures.

CHOIRS NEWS

Sr. Choir rehearsals will start **September 7th** at 7:00 P.M. The choir is always looking for members. Stop by on a Thursday night.

The Sr. Choir picnic will be **September 10th** beginning at 3:00 P.M. at Theresa’s house.

Children’s and Jr. Choirs will resume in October. Watch for schedule.



SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER WORSHIP

September 3	13 th Sunday after Pentecost	SS 9:00	church 10:15
September 10	14 th Sunday after Pentecost	SS 9:00	church 10:15
September 17	15 th Sunday after Pentecost	SS 9:00	church 10:15
September 24	16 th Sunday after Pentecost	SS 9:00	church 10:15
October 1	17 th Pentecost WW HC	SS 9:00	church 10:15
October 8	18 th Sunday after Pentecost	SS 9:00	church 10:15
October 15	19 th Sunday after Pentecost	SS 9:00	church 10:15
October 22	20 th Sunday after Pentecost	SS 9:00	church 10:15
October 29	Reformation Sunday	SS 9:00	church 10:15

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Thank you to all who made “Barnyard Roundup” a wonderful VBS experience: teachers, leaders, helpers, snack moms and dads, and especially, the children and their parents for bringing them. The children are at the heart of what is done here at Zion’s Union Sunday School - Maxatawny. Your help and participation were very much appreciated.



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 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 |

UNWANTED FURNITURE

If you want to donate furniture to Opportunity House, please call Cindy at 610-374-4696, ext. 221 to schedule a pick up date.

HARVEST HOME COLLECTIONS

On Sunday, **September 24th** during worship we will observe our annual Harvest Home celebration. It is a time that we offer thanks to God specifically for providing us with “daily bread” during a time that we are surrounded by the plantings of spring being harvested for our health and sustenance. We show our thankfulness for that not only by gathering for worship on that day, but also by giving actual offerings of non-perishable food items and supplies for infants that we then donate to a local food pantry. Those donations extend our appreciation to God beyond that one morning, as we give help in the lives of those of our local communities who might not be quite as blessed by those basic things as we are.



SO...here’s the collection schedule for the Sundays in September.

- Sunday, September 3rd** – **cans/bottles of vegetables, fruits, soups, meats**
- Sunday, September 10th** – **boxed items of cereals, pastas, and rice products**
- Sunday, September 17th** – **diapers, boxed/bottled baby foods and cereal, as well as other supplies for infants**
- Sunday, September 24th** – **any other non-perishable food items**

We are also collecting Weis gift cards throughout the month that will be used to purchase turkeys for holidays for needy families.

ALSO – please consider attaching a dollar bill to each item you donate. The monies collected can multiply the offerings we give many times over. Food banks have connections to places to purchase food in “bulk” and so our individual dollars buy many more supplies. Containers for your Harvest Home offerings are located in the Gathering Area.

NEIGHBORS IN NEED

Sunday, **October 1st**, we will be receiving the Neighbors In Need special mission offering. Your gift to the Neighbors In Need offering will support United Church of Christ’s ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One third of the NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry. Two thirds is used by the UCC Justice and Witness Ministries to support a variety of justice initiatives. Please think about how your own generosity can help reflect the Neighbors In Need theme, “Protect the Sacred: In a Just World, Clean Water is Life” and consider making a gift to the Neighbors in Need offering on October 1st.



2017-2018 CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

Orientation Meeting for Students and Parents

Sunday, September 10th

9:15 – 10:00 a.m. in the church sanctuary

This meeting is for young people who are in the 7th and 8th grades and their parent(s)/guardian(s). It is asked that at least one parent/guardian be in attendance at this meeting with those young people who plan to be involved in this next confirmation session.



At the meeting we will have the chance to review the confirmation program and requirements for the coming session from September 2017 thru May 2018 (2nd year students) or September 2018 (1st year students).

Letters have gone out to the parents of young people who are in 7th and 8th grade and active in our Sunday School program. If you did not receive one of these letters, please consider this as your announcement and plan on attending the meeting on September 10th. If, for some reason you cannot be in attendance at this meeting, please notify the church office (610-683-7485) so that Pastor can follow up with you and get you connected in this important education opportunity in the life of all of our congregation's young people.

MUMS FOR HARVEST HOME

The church will be decorating the sanctuary with mums on **September 24th** for our Harvest Home service. The cost is \$7.00 per mum. A tear off sign-up sheet is below and may be placed in the offering plate during worship. Please see Karen Warmkessel to pay for your mums. 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 to order your mums is **September 10th**.



MUMS SIGN UP

NAME

NUMBER OF MUMS

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

.....

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTRY

The Eucharistic Ministry Team will make their visits after the October 1st 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 in order to receive the Sacrament, please notify Grace Haas at 610-683-3910 ASAP.



GETTING TO KNOW OUR COMMITTEES

We will be highlighting a different committee each newsletter.

CEMETERY BOARD: President: Carl Flicker

The cemetery board manages the cemetery property and provides burial lots for lot owners to bury the deceased. The board shall have 6-7 directors with no designated terms. The board is an independent, self-affiliated organization except for the addition of new members or changes to the By-Laws which require Church Board approval. Committee Duties include hiring all employees of the corporation, approving the sale of cemetery lots, maintaining a map of all cemetery lots with lot owner information, maintaining the opening and closing of graves, top filling graves and seeding them in the fall, depositing 15% of all lot sales in a perpetual maintenance fund, cleaning the cemetery in spring and fall, keeping account of all money transactions, keeping copies of all cemetery lot sale agreements, sending copies of burial permits to the State and retaining one copy for board record, and keeping records of all board meetings which are held every other month.

MEAL OUTREACH PROGRAM

Reminder that there is a Meal Outreach Program available here at Zion. If any congregational member is in need of meals being prepared for them for a short period, we have a dedicated group willing to help out. Please contact Peggy Morgan for details and procedure.

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 Nancy Fulton if interested.

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.*

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| September 8 | Ice Cream Social at 6:30 P.M. |
| September 9 | 9 A.M. meeting and pack gift boxes. |
| October 9 | Covered dish Pollyanna at 12 noon. |



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

WIZ collects Campbell soup labels (they no longer accept only the front panel, but must have the UPC bars) to support Kutztown Elementary School. A box for your labels is located in the back of the church.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL – Ladies Aid will hold their ICE CREAM SOCIAL on Friday, **September 8th** at 6:30 P.M. There will be entertainment and ice cream and lots of fun and fellowship. Cost is \$2.50 for anyone over 7 years of age. All are invited.



YOU'RE INVITED

WIZ invites all interested women to join us for our September 9th meeting. It is a Saturday morning, beginning at 9:00 A.M. We will have our business meeting and then proceed to fill and prepare the boxes for our College/Military Outreach Project. Continental breakfast will be served.

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.

ZUMBA CLASSES

Zumba classes are Sunday evenings at 6:00 P.M. Wear clothes you can move in, sneakers, bring a towel, water, and lots of energy! The goal is to have fun and be more active. P.S.: Classes have been suspended until **September 10th**.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

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

Activity Schedule:

October 20, 21, 22 Youth Group Camp

Watch for a new schedule coming out shortly.



Offering Schedule:

September 3 Gabby Webb and Hannah Krause

September 10 Zachary Schell and Sarah Grim

September 17 Carson Sheetz and Ben Heffner

September 24 Lauren DeLong and Ashley DeLong

Watch for a new schedule coming shortly.

YOUTH GROUP CAMP – Youth Group camp will take place **October 20th, 21st, and 22nd**. It's always a great time to catch up with your church friends and enjoy games, fun, and early morning prayer (☺). (And don't forget the choc-chip pancakes, yum...yum.) Watch for the registration forms in early October.



The camp cost is about \$1,200 to \$1,300. Anyone who would like to help fund camp should see an advisor.

DART BALL

Dart Ball Team will begin **September 6th**. Anyone interested in joining the team, contact Randy Warmkessel. Games are held on Wednesday evenings at 7:15 P.M. (except during Lent and the week of Thanksgiving) at Zion's or the other teams' churches.



SENIOR FELLOWSHIP GROUP

The Senior Fellowship Group will meet **September 25th and October 23rd** 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.



DID YOU KNOW?

- Julia and Lauren Perella are part of the Rhythm in Motion Cheer Team that will perform during halftime at Steelhawks home games.
- Zachary Schell participated in the 90th FFA Summer Convention at Penn State University competing in the small gas engine event.
- Ryan Korutz received the first ever Fred J. Gross award from the Good Will Fire Co. No. 1 in Trexlertown. Ryan is a member of the Fire Co. and successfully completed his Firefighter 1 certification with more than 180 classroom hours of instruction, responded on emergency calls, participated in numerous fundraising activities and fire prevention programs while attending high school full time and working a part-time job.
- Taylor Derhammer honors list: Saint Francis University Provost List, National Mathematics Honor Society and Kappa Mu Epsilon, Office of Student Research 2017 Research Award and presented his findings at a conference in Indiana.
- Dane Fegely, Zachary Schell, Jacob Heffner, and Ivan Fegely were members of the Kutztown summer league basketball team that finished in second place in the Cedar Beach Small School Blacktop Basketball Summer League.
- Archer and Arden Scaffidi just completed the season swimming for the Kutztown Dolphins, who had a 5-0 season. While swimming Archer qualified for the BCSA County Championships in 6 events, while Arden qualified in 5. At Counties, Archer came home with 3 trophies and 2 medals; Arden came home with 2 trophies.
- Tom Sterner was pictures in the Kutztown Patriot playing quoits at Kutztown Day.
- Ray Schell helped with finger printing of children at Kutztown Day.
- Many of Zion's members were seen roaming the park at Kutztown Day.

NEW SOCKS FOR THE HOMELESS

It's SOCKtober! Socks are a much needed item for the homeless and shelters. We will be collecting new socks for men, women, children, and infants to be distributed to local organizations. Please place donations in the box located in the Gathering Area. Collection will run from **October 1st until November 12th**. Any questions contact Melissa Leiby at melkleiby@yahoo.com.



MYSTERY MEMBER

Hope you learned more about Sandy and George Leiby who were the Mystery Couple in July. Because of unforeseen issues you will have to wait until next month for another Mystery Member.

If anyone would like to be featured in this column please see Karen Howard for a form to fill in with your information.

CANCELLED STAMPS

The Sunday School is still collecting cancelled stamps. They are mailed to “Sisters of the Holy Cross Ministry with the Poor”, which resells them so the proceeds can benefit their ministries. They help those in need around the world. Stamps may be turned in to the Sunday School office.

CHURCH BOARD

June 26, 2017

- Time and Talent surveys were collated and distributed to the appropriate church leaders for the groups. Individuals who indicated interest in activities or groups on the Time and Talent Survey should be receiving follow up information.
- Safety concern was addressed- increased traffic in the back hallways and stairs during church noted. Utilize front stairs when exiting the sanctuary so Security is aware of location of individuals in case of emergency.
- Pastor after collaboration with the Good News Committee and Mutual Ministry is actively reaching out to those members who are less active than before in our congregation.
- Thank You note was received from Rhythm in Motion for allowing them to use the church for a fundraiser.
- No meeting July. Next meeting August 29.

HONOR ROLL

These names were taken from the lists published in the Patriot. 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.

Lauren DeLong

Benjamin Chapkovich

Bryn Keeney

FROM THE MAILBOX

To our Wonderful Church Family,

We really appreciated all the greetings, well wishes, and the Church's certificate for our Fiftieth Anniversary. It was such a memorable day and we sincerely thank you!

George and Sandy Leiby



Zion's Church,

Thank you for thinking of me as I celebrated my high school graduation. I've been so fortunate to have the love and support of family and friends while growing up. Also, I greatly appreciated your Amazon gift card. I will use it towards school purchases such as books for Susquehanna University this fall. I'm really looking forward to it. Thank you again for everything. I'll do my best at SU to make you proud.

With my love,
Hannah Krause

To the members of Zion,

Thank you for the graduation gift. It will come in handy for the upcoming school year!

Sincerely,
Hannah Walker

Thank you to everyone for your calls, prayers, and cards for my recent hospital visit. I am feeling great and am grateful to be part of this wonderful church family.

Peace to all!
Sharon Leiby

Thank you for all the cards, visits, phone calls, and prayers while recuperating. This church has helped me many ways to recover quietly and want to thank everyone.

Marilyn Bird

KUTZTOWN KITCHEN

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.

BUILDING FINANCE COMMITTEE AUGUST 2017 UPDATE



As the hot summer is starting to cool down, we want to again thank you for your support throughout the summer months. Contributions have been coming in well enough that we were able to reduce the mortgage balance further. We were able to reduce the balance to \$68,000. Way to go! Thanks to everyone for their commitment and continued support. Let's keep "plugging away" together so that great things keep happening here at Zion's.

The Building Finance Committee:
Karen Howard, Ray Wilttrout, Sharon
Leiby, Evan Slotter, and Richard Haas

QUIET DAYS

Quiet Days takes place **September 5th and October 3rd** from 9:30 A.M. to 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, and a bag lunch. For information contact Sue Wunderlich at sawmsw@dejazzd.com.

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.



September 2	Emmett Fenstermaker
September 3	Earl & Eva Christman (62 wed)
September 6	Kenneth Angstadt
September 7	James Laub
September 18	George Leiby
September 22	Dave Merkel
September 24	Evelyn Dietz
October 1	Mary Jane Williams
October 11	Willard Brensinger, Jr.
October 13	Paul Heffner
October 14	Richard & Jane Warmkessel (50 wed)
October 16	Jeanette Fegely
October 21	Ernest & Carloyn Wiltout (61 wed)
October 23	William & Karen Howard (52 wed)
October 25	Willard Angstadt
October 30	Richard & Grace Haas (52 wed)
October 30	Jean Harter
October 31	Eleanor Merkel

OUR SYMPATHIES TO....

... the family of Eleanor Bartera.

“The day the power of love overrules the love of power, the world will know peace.” - Mahatma Gandhi



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.

September 3

Pew Holy Communion

October 1

Altar Holy Communion



OCTOBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

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