

# Zion's Messenger

February 2012

## *Pastor's Page...*

My son's recent Facebook posting caused confusion for many of his friends and relatives. "Can't wait for Friday, Looking forward to drinking orange juice!" Say what? Summarized most of the replies. I, however, knew what was going on, although I can't say I was thrilled about it. Dan had informed me the week before that he was going on "a cleanse" for ten days to start 2012 off on a healthy note. So very Californian! This program involves drinking water with fresh squeezed lemon juice, maple syrup, and cayenne pepper (let's get real!) for seven to ten days. I can't imagine not eating for that long and it didn't sound healthy to me. After expressing my motherly concerns,-and there were quite a few- I accepted the fact that Dan was set on doing it and just started praying. I really didn't think he'd make it past day three, but lo and behold, he's on day eight and feeling great. He sounded good when I spoke to him on the phone tonight and it began to dawn on me that this cleanse represents more than a way for my son to drop a few pounds.

I think Dan is preparing to make some changes in his life-and through the process of getting rid of toxins and excess weight he is proving to himself that he does have the motivation, self discipline, and focus to start moving in a new and healthier direction. School, career plans,



and moving closer to his support network are mentioned in every conversation we have lately. The wheels are really turning inside that young man, and he sounds both positive and hopeful.

This month, the season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 22. This special time of the church year provides us with the opportunity to engage in a kind of spiritual "cleanse" from the beginning, when we contemplate our mortality and the depth of our brokenness on Ash Wednesday, to the powerfully painful recognition that Jesus sacrificed everything for us on Good Friday. For the rest of the forty days we have plenty of time to engage in spiritual activities- worship, prayer, bible reading/study, meditation and service -as individuals and as a community -which can help us to rid ourselves of toxins that interfere with our relationships with God and each other, while also providing renewed understanding, focus, and hope.

This year, during our mid-week services we will be looking at the topic of prayer- so familiar, but so under-utilized in most of our lives. How can we become more effective in this spiritual practice that has the power to both transform and enrich our lives and our church? After a soup supper and discussion, we will end our time together with a brief worship/prayer service, which will be different each week.

I hope you will join us for worship, fellowship, and service throughout this season. May it refresh and re-focus us, so that we can approach Easter with renewed hope, joy, and spiritual energy. Certainly that is something worth looking forward to and working towards, and infinitely more satisfying than any old glass of orange juice!!

Your Partner in Ministry,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Vicki". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

### **ATTENTION: Do What Matters Team**

Possible dates for planning session

Thursday, Feb. 9 at 7 pm.  
Saturday, Feb. 11 at 8:30 am.  
Monday, Feb. 20 at 7 pm.

Please let Pastor Vicki know ASAP.

## WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES IN FEBRUARY

FEBRUARY 5/ Fifth Sunday After Epiphany  
8 & 10:30 A.M Holy Communion  
"Healed to Serve"

FEBRUARY 12/ Sixth Sunday After Epiphany  
8 A.M. Worship Service  
10:30 Holy Communion  
"Partners in Healing"

Blessing of Teddy Bears

FEBRUARY 19/ The Transfiguration of Our Lord  
8 A.M. Contemporary Service with Holy  
Communion  
10:30 A.M. Holy Communion  
"It's All About Relationships"

FEBRUARY 22/ Ash Wednesday SEE BELOW

FEBRUARY 26/ First Sunday in Lent  
8 A.M. Holy Communion  
10:30 A.M. Worship Service  
"Water and Covenant"

FEBRUARY 29/ Mid-Week Lenten Service  
SEE BELOW



### LENT BEGINS ON FEBRUARY 22

We begin this special season of reflection and spiritual growth on Ash Wednesday. Worship this night offers us the opportunity for SELF EXAMINATION as we acknowledge our mortality, REFLECTION on changes that need to be made in our lives, and HOPE and HEALING as our living Lord touches us in and through his holy meal.

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP  
FEBRUARY 22 @ 7 P.M.  
Holy Communion and (optional)  
Imposition of Ashes

## MID WEEK LENTEN SERVICES

(February 29, March 7, 14, 21, & 28)

This year our focus will be on PRAYER. It is one of the most powerful spiritual resources at our disposal, yet we are often are hesitant, inconsistent or lukewarm in our efforts to pray. The disciples did not ask Jesus to teach them how to preach or heal, they asked him to teach them how to pray. They saw firsthand how Jesus was strengthened and empowered through his frequent times of prayer and connection with his heavenly Father, and they wanted to experience those benefits themselves. So should we! The Lord's Prayer was meant to be a model, or a guide to help us in our prayers, not the only prayer we ever pray. In each mid-week study we will take time to explore the power of prayer, why prayer matters, how to pray authentically, how to pray differently, and how prayer strengthens and transforms.

The format for Wednesday evenings in Lent will be:

6:15- 6:45 P.M. Light Supper in the Fellowship Hall (soup, bread, beverages)

6:45- 7:30 P.M. Focus on Prayer (Study/discussion)

7:30- 8:00 P.M. Worship (Each week a different type of prayer service)

Child Care will be provided from 6:45- 8 P.M. if needed. If interested, please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board by February 19<sup>th</sup>.

Soup Makers are needed. We are hoping to have two different soups for the five weeks. If you can help, please sign up on the church bulletin board indicating what kind of soup you will be making/bringing.

Donations of bread/crackers would also be appreciated. Beverages will be provided.



## THANKS TO YOU...

### **Ethiopia**

#### Meet Luku

Farming is the primary way to make a living in the Abaya district of Eastern Ethiopia. It's always been a challenge for crop production to support the entire community, but in recent years, unpredictable weather and changing rainfall patterns have led to extreme drought and food shortage.

Luku Elema, a 36-year-old mother of seven, knows this all too well. For the last several years, her harvest of coffee and grain has only produced enough for her family to sustain themselves for part of the year. They have gone two months or more with hardly anything to eat. The Lutheran World Federation, supported by your gifts to ELCA World Hunger, is working to make a difference.

In July 2010, Luku received a gift of three goats. The goats are hardy, surviving in even the driest, hottest climates — all the while providing Luku and her children with fresh, nutritious milk to drink and sell in the market. She uses the manure from the goats to fertilize her fields, and help grow a larger harvest than ever before.

Within five months, the three goats had already multiplied into seven. "When there is a lack of food, I can sell a goat," she says. With enough income to sustain her family, even in times of drought, she is one step closer to breaking the cycle of poverty for good. Your gifts to ELCA World Hunger support this program and others like it in more than 60 countries around the world.

*Your gifts to the ELCA World Hunger support this program and others like it in more than 60 countries around the world.*

## RESPONSIBILITIES FOR FEBRUARY

### ACOLYTES

- Feb. 5 – 8:00 am. Caleb Smith
- 5 – 10:30 am. Melanie Epting
- 12 – 8:00 am. Shannon Kemp
- 12 – 10:30 am. Jarrett Moyer
- 19 – 8:00 am. Brandi Seidel
- 19 – 10:30 am. Caleb Smith
- 22 – 7:00 pm. Zoey Adam (Ash Wednesday)
- 26 – 8:00 am. Alicia Pursell
- 26 – 10:30 am. Abbie Smith
- 29 – 7:00 pm. Dylan Brown

### ALTAR GUILD

Mabel & Phares Fry, Cleta Borkey

### OPPORTUNITY HOUSE MEAL

Leave church at 5:30 pm.

February 17 – Brian Smith, Captain, Janine Dreibelbis, Karen Freeman, Gary Rothermel

### LECTORS

- Feb. 5 – 8:00 am. Rita Decker
- 5 – 10:30 am. Elaine Clark
- 12 – 8:00 am. Jeanette Heckman
- 12 – 10:30 am. Scouts
- 19 – 10:30 am. Susan Lutz
- 26 – 8:00 am. Susan Heckman
- 26 – 10:30 am. Alyx Mazaika

### GREETERS

- Feb. 5 – 8:00 am. Harry & Shirley Sohon
- 5 – 10:30 am. Sandra & Brian Moroney
- 12 – 10:30 am. Scouts
- 19 – 10:30 am. Allan & Caren Cornman
- 26 – 10:30 am. Linda & Paul Weidner

### MAIL TEAM # 1

Thursday, February 23 at 7:00 pm.

Nancy & Alicia Pursell, Mary Mengle, Cleta Borkey, Barbara Reinhart

### NURSERY ATTENDANTS

- Feb. 5 – Adrienne Puglia & Travis Hoshauer
- 12 – Eileen Puglia & Michael Houtz
- 19 – Gary Rothermel & Morgan DeLong
- 26 – Adrienne Puglia & Brandi Mazaika

### OFFERING VOLUNTEERS

- Feb. 5 – 10:30 am. Gary & Ruth Wilhelm
- 12 – 10:30 am. Scouts
- 19 – 10:30 am. Elaine Clark
- 26 – 10:30 am. Debbie Heckman



## MEMBERSHIP NOTES

### **BAPTISM –**

Makenzie Eva Reitenauer, daughter of Ozzie & April Reitenauer was baptized on Dec. 4, 2011

### **DEATHS –**

Ernest Hoffman passed into eternal rest on November 25, 2011

Ruth Miller passed into eternal rest on December 31, 2011

### **CHANGE OF ADDRESS –**

Sarah Smith  
Heartstone at Maiden creek  
105 Dries Rd. #34  
Reading, PA 19605



### **ALTAR FLOWERS, BULLETIN & RELIGIOUS DIRECTORIES SPONSORS ARE NEEDED!**

For many years the policy of asking you, the members of Zion's to help defray the cost of these items has seemed to work in an agreeable manner. It also gives you a way of honoring or remembering someone – a loved one, a friend, or family member. We would surely like to continue this policy. The new charts for the flowers & bulletins are now posted on the Narthex bulletin board. Won't you help us, by sponsoring one of these items during 2011? Costs are:

Altar Flowers	\$30.00
Sunday bulletins	13.00
Hamburg Item	7.50
Reading Eagle	18.00



MORE THAN 20 YEARS AGO, the Souper Bowl of Caring began with a simple prayer from a single youth group:

“Lord, as we enjoy the Super Bowl football games, help us to be mindful of those without even a bowl of soup to eat.”

Since that day, more than \$81 million has been raised for local charities across the country through Souper Bowl of Caring. It has become a powerful movement that is transforming the time around Super Bowl weekend into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving.

Through this mission, young people learn what it's like to make a positive difference in the world – as they collect food, raise money and volunteer to work in charities that provide shelter to the homeless, food to the hungry and compassion to those in need.

Be part of this movement that is sharing God's love with those in need. Please give generously on Souper Bowl Sunday.

Every dollar donated goes to Opportunity House our 2012 Souper Bowl of caring charity of choice.

The church secretary would like to say “Thank You” to everyone who helped collate, and ready the Annual Report for mailing.

## PLEASE REMEMBER OUR SHUT INS THIS VALENTINES DAY

We have compiled a list of our shut-ins' names and addresses. Will you please remember them on Valentine's Day with a card? Thanks!

Mrs. Stella Dietrich  
Kutztown Manor  
120 Trexler Ave.  
Kutztown, PA 19530

Mrs. Frances Bower  
Stoneridge Towne Centre  
7 W. Park Ave.  
Myerstown, PA 17067

Mrs. Jane Francis  
Grand View Manor  
129 Houck Rd.  
Fleetwood, PA 19522

Mrs. Kathryn Miller  
1249 Ash Lane  
Lebanon, PA 17042

Mrs. Dorothy Kline  
Wyndcliffe B-2, 100 Chestnut St.  
Hamburg, PA

Mrs. Sarah Smith  
Heartstone at Maiden creek  
105 Dries Rd. #34  
Reading, PA 19605

Mrs. Edna Davis  
969 Balthaser Rd.  
Lenhartsville, PA 19534

Mrs. Ella Adam  
Heartstone at Maiden creek  
105 Dries Rd. #24  
Reading, PA 19605

Mrs. Helen Wanner  
604 Main St.  
Shoemakersville, PA 19555

Mrs. Grace Dietrich  
1802 Tulpehocken Rd.  
Wyomissing, PA 19610

Mrs. Linda Peters  
267 Zion's Church Rd.  
Shoemakersville, PA 19555

Miss Grace Yeager  
1 South Home Avenue  
D 318  
Topton, PA 19562

Mrs. Marguerite Hepner  
Hearthstone at Maiden creek  
105 Dries Rd. Apt. 15  
Reading, PA 19605

Mr. Paul Reidenhour, Sr.  
Kutztown Manor  
120 Trexler Ave.  
Kutztown, PA 19530

Mrs. Ella Wessner  
350 Witchcraft Rd.  
Hamburg, PA 19526

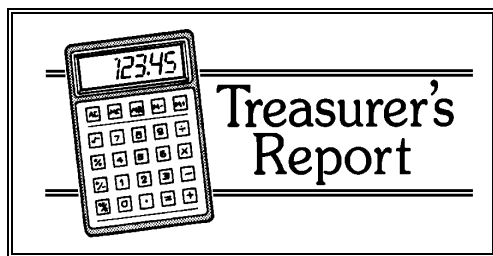
Mrs. Mary Ellen Fraunfelter  
1425 Philadelphia Ave. # 242  
Chambersburg, PA 17201



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### WINTER WEATHER AND WORSHIP

We can't predict, but we can prepare. If small group meetings need to be canceled or postponed, the group's participants will be called by phone. For large groups or for Sunday school and Worship Events, cancellations will be posted on Channel 69's website: [www.wfmz.com](http://www.wfmz.com). (click on School Closing then Church, Worship) and it should be on the scrolling bar on the bottom of the TV screen. Information will also be on our Facebook page: Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Perry Township. The church's phone answering machine will continuously have a recorded message announcing all weather-related schedule changes. If you're not sure about a scheduled event, simply call the Church at 610-562-3112.



## ZION'S UNIFIED FUND

through December 31, 2011

Beginning Balance	\$	2003.64
Current Offerings		186,967.14
Special Offerings		<u>24,596.97</u>
Sub Total		213,567.75
Current Expenses	-	<u>220,342.44</u>
Fund Balance	-	6,774.69

## BUDGET UPDATE

Due to your faithful support, the budget deficit was decreased by more than ½ during December. Let us continue to respond generously to the call to further His work through His body, the church-our church.



## SHUT-IN BIRTHDAY CARD SHOWER

February's Shut in Birthday is:

Jane Francis will celebrate her birthday on February 12<sup>th</sup>. Her address is Grand View Manor, 129 Houck Rd., Fleetwood, PA 19522

## CHURCH COUNCIL CORNER

We opened our January meeting with opening devotions by Pastor Vicki who shared "Receiving Guidance through Prayer". We had a busy January meeting discussing the important issues of the Church.

We would like to thank council members Mike Puglia and Clea Borkey, whose terms are expiring, for the many years of self-less dedication to the Church. We will miss their insight and contribution to our discussions while conducting the Churches affairs.

We are pleased and thankful that the nominating committee has successful found new candidates for the vacant council positions.

One of the items related to our Safe Child policy is the placement of windows in the Sunday school classroom doors. Thanks to Mike Puglia, the first window insert has been installed in the Nursery door. If you get a chance, swing by the Sunday school wing and check out the window. It looks great.

We reviewed the Christmas Eve services and wanted thank everyone for all there help in making them a great success.

## CLEANING TEAM OPENING

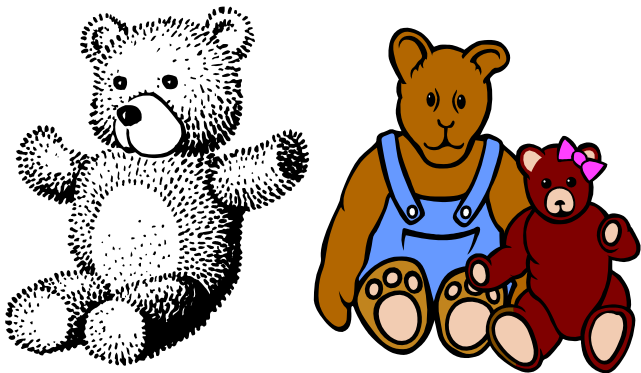
Elaine Clark will be retiring from the cleaning team. If you are interested in applying for this position, please see Mark Dreibelbis or Carol Rothemel for more details and a job description.



## **TEAM PRIDE SHIRT DAY**

On February 5, many football fans will be watching the Super Bowl and rooting for their favorite team. Whether we are into sports or not, most of us have a team or organization that is dear to our hearts, that we are proud to be a part of, that we feel strongly about. You are encouraged to wear your favorite team shirt to church on Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup>.

Hopefully this will provide an opportunity for us to get to know each other better as a church family. Take some time to ask someone about their shirt and what it represents to them. Always remember, that each and every one of us belongs to TEAM JESUS CHRIST and are asked to wear and carry his love for all to see wherever we go, every day. Let's GO, team!



Have you noticed the furry creatures that have joined us in the pews for worship over the past few weeks? Zion's Welcome and Outreach Committee is asking the congregation and Sunday School classes to join us as we collect teddy bears for the "Sharing Love, Comfort, and Joy" project. Please bring a teddy bear or two to church on the first two Sundays of February and place them in a pew. The bears will be blessed on Sunday, 2/12/12 and donated to service organizations such as Mary's Shelter, local service organizations, etc. for distribution to children to provide love, comfort, and joy during times of need.

## **STEWARDSHIP FOCUS ON RELATIONSHIPS**

The final month of our "Stewardship As Lifestyle" program takes a look at the importance and variety of relationships that God has gifted us with. A calendar of suggestions to nurture your relationships each day of the month is provided in this newsletter. What a neat way to "warm up" the shortest, coldest month of the year! Each Sunday we will also explore a different type of relationship with a coordinating activity.

- February 5- Friends & Neighbors-Invitation
- February 12 - Family & Loved Ones-  
Activities for Families Hand-Out
- February 19 - God- 10 Commandments Bookmark
- February 26 - Sisters & Brothers Around the  
World – Spare Change Collection  
For ELCA Global Barnyard Animal

"He answered: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind' and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'  
(Luke 10:27)

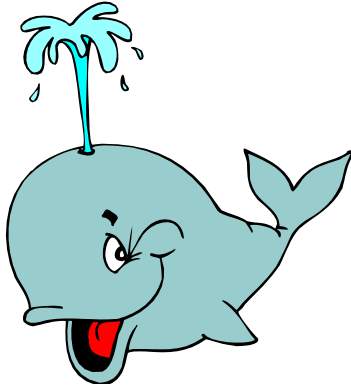
Stay tuned next month for the launch of our new Stewardship program - "Answers to Stewardship Questions You Always Wanted to Ask".



## **SNOW FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY**

(Sunday after the next snowfall) @ Perry Park  
1:30-4 p.m. with Pizza Back at the Church

Because the weather is so unpredictable, our annual sledding and tubing event is going to have to be a spontaneous activity. So the next Sunday there's snow on the ground, we will head out for an afternoon of fun for all ages.



**SIGHT AND SOUND THEATRE**

Saturday, May 26, 2012

4:15 pm. Show

Jonah

Only 8 tickets left

Jonah is at Sight and Sound Theatre. I will be getting a group together and we will carpool to the theatre.

We will leave the church at 2:30 pm. Friends are invited.

Price is 61.40 per adult, children 3 to 12 - 19.00 and teens 13-18 - \$29.00.

If interested, please contact Susie Lutz at 610-562-8785 by February 15, 2012.



The February Northern Berks Food Pantry item is Macaroni & Cheese. please place your donation in the shopping cart in the Narthex. The Pantry is also in need of paper bags.



**THE DAFFODILS ARE COMING, THE DAFFODILS ARE COMING!!**

Spring can't be far away!

American Cancer Society Annual Daffodil Days fund raiser is beginning.

See the bulletin board for details and a sign up sheet.

Money is due with order by February 19<sup>th</sup>. Please make checks payable to the American Cancer Society.



Kauffman Chicken BBQ  
sponsored by Shoemakersville Fire Co. Truck Crew  
Sunday, March 11, 2012

Pick up at fire company, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
Half chicken, baked potato, applesauce, roll, butter,  
& beverage  
Cost is: \$7.00

See Woodrow Lutz, Susan, Lutz, or Tiffany Gruber  
for tickets



Dear Friends,

I thank all of you for your notes, thoughts and prayers since I left your area. I truly miss your friendship and worship with you as part of my family and friends. May God bless you and grant you a blessed new year.

In Christian love,  
Mary Ellen Fraunfelter

## CONTRIBUTED BY ZION'S LIBRARY WORKERS

### **Sufficiency**

by Carice Williams

I do not dream of luxury  
Or search for hidden hold,  
For I have wealth beyond compare,  
More than my heart can hold.

I have the yes to realize  
The beauty of God's earth—  
The golden sun, the silver moon,  
And other things of worth.

I have the ears to listen to  
The music of the birds,  
Or when a good friend speaks to me  
In soft and kindly words.

But most of all I have the love  
Of someone sweet and dear,  
Who by my side still shares a love  
That's constant year after year.

### **Beside Me**

by Craig Sathoff

You walk beside me every day  
In everything I do  
To help me with the many tasks  
That make our dreams come true.

You do not walk ahead of me,  
So anxious for success  
That you outdistance hopes and goals  
We've set for happiness.

But neither do you walk behind  
While I go on ahead  
To search horizons far or near

Your love and trust joined firm with mine,  
You walk with me each day,  
So that together we can share  
Each joy that comes our way.

### ***I'll Gather Stardust***

by Clay Harrision

I'll gather stardust to make you a crown;  
I'll gather rainbows to make you a gown.  
I'll pick the first roses blooming in spring  
And have them delivered by angels on wing.

I'll fashion a ring of pure autumn gold  
To be yours forever to have and to hold.  
I'll string all the pearls found deep in the sea  
And wrap them with moonlight to shine endlessly.

I'll tell the songbirds to sing you a song  
Whenever you're lonely and nights are too long.  
I'll give you my heart, my soul, and my life  
If you will accept them and be my wife.



## **FARM FAMILY APPRECIATION CELEBRATION**

When: Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup>

Time: doors open at 6:15 pm.

Dinner buffet 7:00 – 8:00 pm.

Hoedown, classic and modern country music by “The  
Outlaws” 8:00 – 11:00 pm.

Place: Hamburg Field House

A catered hot buffet meal and square dance will be held to show appreciation for farm families in Berks, Carbon, Lehigh, Monroe, Northampton and Schuylkill Counties, and the surrounding areas to build community among farm families and citizens.

Everyone is invited - farm families and farm family supporters! Children welcome!

Sponsored by various religious, social and financial organizations.

**COSTS:** Farm families are free. Free will donation at the door.

**FARM FAMILY SUPPORTERS:**

ADULTS, \$15.00, 3-11, \$7.50, (2 & under, free).

Registration sheets are on the bulletin board in the narthex.

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

Thank you to Adrienne Puglia for doing Music Sunday for the Sunday School classes. Adrienne had to resign due to school activities. Thank you also to Amy Koller for serving on Christian Education committee, Amy had to resign from the committee, but will help on as needed basis. We welcome new member, Sharon Doklan, to our committee.

Our next Milestone event will be on Sunday, February 26 at the 10:30 am worship service. Presentation will be by the 5th and 6th grade class.

A basket will be in the Narthex for the St Jude Ranch project. Recycling of greeting cards by removing the back of the card, the children at the Ranch create a new card for re-sale.

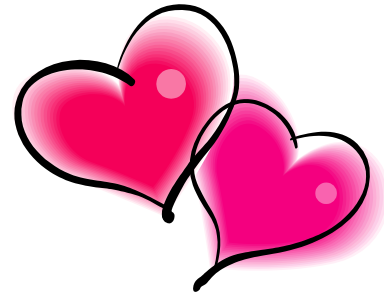
The Sunday School will also be collecting cancelled postage stamps. The cancelled stamp can be cut from the envelope, with a 1/2 to 1-inch margin around them. They go to a facility which uses them to sell to collectors and the funds received are used to purchase various types of equipment for the facility. We are coordinating this project with Ontelaunee Grange. There will be basket in the Narthex for the stamps.

Do you know a friend, neighbor, or relative that you could invite to Sunday School. We are asking everyone to think of someone that could be invited on any Sunday to attend Sunday School. Share the Good News!

Sunday, February 12, a representative from Bear Creek Camp will be at Zion's. All youth, First grade through Senior High, and parents are invited to attend the combined Sunday School class in the Fellowship Hall. Please come with any questions you may have regarding the camp. We have asked the representative to conduct team building skills for attendees.

**WANTED:** Volunteer to conduct Music Sunday, one Sunday a month for Sunday school ages Nursery through 6th grade. We have some music selections and/or you may select your own music. The classes really look forward to Music Sunday and this should be a rewarding experience for everyone involved. Please contact someone on our committee if this is an area you are interested in serving.

Military Bulletin Board - this board is located in the Sunday School wing of our building. Erin Seidel has been working on this for several months. Do you have information on your service person that is not on the board? Erin would be glad to have that information.



## FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

The Fellowship Committee has reorganized and will be hosting the following events at the church. Please mark these dates on your calendar:

April 6 (Good Friday) at 10:30 am - Adult volunteers and 6th grade youths through Sr. High are needed for dying of eggs for the Egg Hunt - Pizza lunch will be served and we should be finished by 2:00 pm.

April 7, at 9:30 am is the Egg Hunt for 0 to Adult to hunt for eggs. Volunteers are asked to be at the church at 8:30 am to hide the eggs.

April 8 is Easter Sunday

May 13 is Mother's Day and Fellowship committee will host a social after the 10:30 worship service.

If you are able to help at any of these events, please contact Cleta Borkey, Chair or any of the committee members, Tina Blake, Brenda Hartman, Faye Heckman, Wanda Hoherchak, Eileen Puglia, Mike Puglia, Barbara Shafer, Brian Smith or Heather Wagner.

As of December 31, 2011 we have raised \$1,368.15 from saving Redner's Tapes. If you would like to participate in this program, it's easy. Just get a save-a-tape card at the store, put your register tapes in the basket in the narthex.

## LIBRARY NEWS

Ever since my husband, Nelson, retired and I have his help, I've been in the mood to organize and clean out the clutter in our house. In doing so we found items that brought back so many memories of earlier years when our adult children were just kids and the collections they had, the toys they played with, the books they read, and even some gifts they received and lots more. And it made me think of all the times I've volunteered at our church library and discovered the many treasures there as well.

One time we (volunteers) looked at pictures taken decades ago, after our Bible study on angels we found a beautiful video on "Biblical Angels" and as the collection is entered in the computer, we've found books that were great reads. I'd like YOU to have this same experience of finding a treasure in YOUR church library. And that's why YOUR church library will be open on Saturday, February 18 from 10:00 A.M. until 12:00 Noon, weather permitting. You may come to the library simply to browse, to take out items, or to volunteer.

Listed below are NEW items added to the collection:

Adult Fiction: "Christmas Love at Lake Tahoe" by  
Lena Dooley

"A Door County Christmas" by Eileen Key, Becky  
Melba, Rachael Phillips & Cynthia Ruty (4 in 1  
Collection)

"A River walk Christmas" by Elizabeth  
Goddard, Martha Roger, Lynette Sowell,  
Kathleen Y'Barbo (4 in 1 Collection)

"A Lancaster County Christmas" by Suzanne Fisher  
"Esther's Gift" and "The Mitford Snowmen" by Jan  
Karon

Inspirational/religion:

"Mary Did You Know?" a book and music CD

"The Gift" by Susan Boyle music CD

"Snow" by gofish music CD

DVD's: Bethlehem Year Zero

The Fourth Wise Man

Joshua

The Christmas Hope & the Christmas Choir  
(double feature)

The Christmas Shoes & The Christmas  
Blessing (double feature)

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever

Timmy's Gift

VeggieTales The Little Drummer Boy

Three Christmas Classics: Christmas Is,

The city that forgot about Christmas, &

The Stableboy's Christmas

Audio CD Books: Unlikely Angel by Ashley Smith

God's Power to Change Your Life by Rick Warren

Heaven Is for Real by Todd Burpo

The Shack by William Young

90 Minutes in Heaven by Don Piper

Glimpses of Heaven by Trudy Harris, RN

Children's Audio CD's: Adventures of Odyssey "A  
Christmas Odyssey" which contains 12 stories  
celebrating the true meaning of Christmas.

Library volunteers meet: Monday, Feb. 13 from 6:30 to  
8:00 P.M.

Saturday, Feb. 18 from 10:00 A.M.  
to 12:00 Noon

Sunday volunteers:

Feb. 5 Ruth Ann Eyer

Feb. 12 Barbara Shafer

Feb. 19 Shirlene Epting

Feb. 26 Carolyn Geist



## BEAR CREEK CAMP

It's cold and wintry but that's the perfect time to start thinking about all the things you can do outdoors at Bear Creek Camp this summer. Did you know Bear Creek Camp is the largest Lutheran Camp in the country?

**What do we do at camp?** Throughout the week (or less for Try Camp) campers will have time to hike, cook-out, swim, play games, make crafts, learn more about environmental education, worship, and discuss their faith.

**Where do we live at camp?** Campers live in a cabin or tent with 6-8 other people (and a counselor) according to their gender and year in school.

Brochures are available in the office or check the website [www.bearcreekcamp.org](http://www.bearcreekcamp.org). Zion's WELCA think this is such an important opportunity that they provide scholarships of ½ the cost of a regular week of camp to all Zion's member who attend camp. There is special pricing for first time campers and for those families having more than one child going to camp. The first group of camp registrations will be sent in from the church March 1 to take advantage of the early bird discount.



## SCOUT SUNDAY BREAKFAST

(sponsored by Cub Scout Pack # 163)

**FEBRUARY 12<sup>TH</sup>**

**7:00 – 10:00 AM.**

The Cub Scouts of Pack #163 wish to thank Zion's Lutheran Church for their support and invites the congregation, as well as family and friends, to enjoy breakfast with them on Scout Sunday, February 12, from 7 to 10 am. Breakfast will be made by the Cub Scout parents and served to you by the Cub Scouts.

Pancakes or French toast

Eggs

Ham, bacon, or scrapple

Potatoes

Juice, tea, coffee

Hope to see you there!



## CUB SCOUT PACK #163

Cake Auction

Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>

The Cub Scouts will be holding a cake auction on Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 6 pm.

All cakes are made from scratch by the boys (with the assistance of their dads). Come out and see the amazing cakes (or pies) these scouts can make, and depending on what looks good to you, join in on the bidding. This is a fun evening for everyone. All money earned from the sale of the cakes goes directly to purchasing awards given to the boys at their annual Blue and Gold banquet.

## CEMETERY SPRING CLEANING

Zion's Cemetery, Perry Township, will be cleared of all decorations/memorials not planted in the ground (living plants) the week of March 12 - 16, 2012. If you plan to claim any decorations/memorials, please do so before clean-up week. The cemetery board is not responsible for any items remaining on graves when spring cleaning begins. Existing and new decorations/memorials may be replaced or placed effective March 17, 2012. Thank you.



### Cupid Cups

#### What You Need:

1 square BAKER'S

Semi-Sweet Baking

Chocolate, melted

2 cups boiling water,

divided

2 pkg. (4 serving size

each) JELL-O Brand

Strawberry Flavor Gelatin

1 1/2 cups, cold water, divided

Ice cubes

1 cup thawed COOL WHIP Whipped Topping

Assorted Valentine sprinkles & candies



#### Instructions:

**DRAW** a heart design or write a Valentine's Day message in each of eight (6-oz.) clear plastic cups by piping melted chocolate onto inside of each cup.

Refrigerate until chocolate is firm.

**STIR** 1 cup of the boiling water into 1 pkg. of the dry gelatin mix in medium bowl at least 2 min. until completely dissolved. Stir in 1 cup cold water; pour evenly into prepared cups. Refrigerate 1 hour or until gelatin is firm.

**MEANWHILE**, stir remaining 1 cup boiling water into remaining package of dry gelatin mix in medium bowl at least 2 min. until completely dissolved. Add enough ice to remaining 1/2 cup cold water to measure 1 cup. Add to gelatin; stir until thickened. Stir in whipped topping with wire whisk until well blended. Spoon into prepared cups. Refrigerate 3 hours or until firm. Decorate with sprinkles. Store leftover desserts in refrigerator.

## ATTENTION MARRIED COUPLES:

Have you signed up for your spring Lutheran Marriage Encounter

Weekend? NOW is the time to register for this opportunity to rekindle the romance and realize the full potential of your marriage with all the joy and beauty God intended. The spring



2012 Pennsylvania Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekends are: **March 16-18 at Toftrees Resort and Conference Center, State College, PA** (peaceful resort located in the center of the state) and **Apr. 20-22 at Park Inn by Radisson-Sharon, West Middlesex, PA** (a lovely hotel featuring king beds and in-room hot tubs --1 hour north of Pittsburgh.) Weekends run from Friday night at 8 PM to Sunday afternoon around 5 PM and are designed to enrich ALL MARRIAGES. There is a \$45 per couple registration fee; plus toward the end of the weekend, you will be given an opportunity to make a confidential contribution of whatever amount you wish toward continuation of the program. If the spring weekends don't fit into your schedule, the two fall Weekends are: September 14-16 at Olmsted Mansion and Retreat Center, Ludlow, PA -- 20 miles southeast of Warren, PA; and October 19-21 at The Mountain Laurel Resort, White Haven, PA -- just off Interstate 80, two hours north of Philadelphia. Many say the Weekend was the most fantastic and moving experience of their lives. Registrations are limited, so sign up today to ensure your first choice. To sign up, simply go to the website: [www.GodLovesMarriage.org](http://www.GodLovesMarriage.org) and register online using your credit card. Or for questions, or if you would like a brochure with a registration form mailed to you, contact Pennsylvania Directors of Lutheran Marriage Encounter, Fred & Julie Schamber, at [fjschamber@comcast.net](mailto:fjschamber@comcast.net) or 724-325-3166.

## DIAKON FAMILY LIFE SERVICES NORTHEAST

### *Living with Loss Support Group*

Monday evenings 6:30 - 8 p.m. on March 19, 26, April 2, 16, 23, and 30, at Parish of St. Columbkil, 200 Indian Spring Road, Boyertown, Pa. (610) 367-2371. We are grateful to Morrell Funeral Home for sponsoring this grief support group. For more information or to register, please call Diakon Family Life Services at (610) 682-1337 or 1-888-499-2699.

## *2012 Marriage Preparation Series*

Sat., Feb. 25 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m.  
Sat., March 3 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.  
Sat., March 10 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m.  
At St. John Lutheran Church, 45 N. Reading Avenue,  
Boyertown, PA 19512. Deadline for reservation Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>

Fri., June 22 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Sat., June 23 10 a.m.-5 p.m.  
St. John Lutheran Church, 201 E. Main Street, Kutztown,  
PA 19530  
Deadline for registration is June 8, 2012  
(\$20 added fee for lunch)

Sun., Sept. 16 6 p.m.-8:30 p.m.  
Sun., Sept. 23 5 p.m.-8:30 p.m.  
Sun., Sept. 30 6 p.m.-8:30 p.m.  
Atonement Lutheran Church, 5 Wyomissing Blvd.,  
Wyomissing, PA 19610  
Deadline for registration is Aug. 31, 2012

Call (610) 682-1337 or 888-499-2699 (toll-free) for more information. Please enclose \$60 payment with registration form and mail to: Diakon Family Life Services, One South Home Avenue, Tipton, Pa. 19562. *Late registration cannot be guaranteed and is subject to a \$20 late processing fee.*

### *KidShape, helping kids and families fight obesity together*

Families face a lot of challenges, but can sometimes can run into roadblocks when they try to handle them alone. Diakon's health ministry, KidShape, is a clinically-proven, weight-management program for overweight and at-risk children, ages 6 to 14, and their families, to help families tackle the problem of pediatric weight challenges together. The group will meet for 9 weeks starting March 1, 6:30 to 8:30pm, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Reading. Pre-registration is required. Cost is \$10, with financial assistance available. For more information, call (888) 499-2699 or visit [www.diakon.org/kidshape](http://www.diakon.org/kidshape).

### *Surviving and Thriving through Separation or Divorce Support Group*

Monday evenings 6:30 - 8 p.m. on March 19, 26, April 2, 16, 23, 30 at Calvary Lutheran Church, 1009 Elizabeth Avenue, Laureldale, Pa. (610) 929-9606. The group is free due to the generous sponsorship of the Berks County Bar Association, but advanced registration is required. For more information or to register, please call Diakon Family Life Services at (610) 682-1337 or 1-888-499-2699.

# U.S. Presidents

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| Abraham Lincoln       | Herbert Hoover    | Ronald Reagan      |
| Andrew Jackson        | James Buchanan    | Rutherford B Hayes |
| Andrew Johnson        | James Garfield    | Theodore Roosevelt |
| Benjamin Harrison     | James Madison     | Thomas Jefferson   |
| Calvin Coolidge       | James Monroe      | Ulysses S Grant    |
| Chester Alan Arthur   | James Polk        | Warren Harding     |
| Dwight Eisenhower     | Jimmy Carter      | William Clinton    |
| Franklin D. Roosevelt | John Adams        | William Harrison   |
| Franklin Pierce       | John Kennedy      | William McKinley   |
| George Herbert Bush   | John Quincy Adams | William Taft       |
| George W Bush         | John Tyler        | Woodrow Wilson     |
| George Washington     | Lyndon Johnson    | Zachary Taylor     |
| Gerald Ford           | Martin Van Buren  |                    |
| Grover Cleveland      | Millard Fillmore  |                    |
| Harry Truman          | Richard Nixon     |                    |

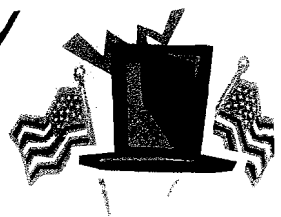
The Stewardship theme for February is **RELATIONSHIPS**. Here are suggestions for simple ways to nurture those relationships every day of the month.

## February 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>FRIENDS CHILDREN Parents Acquaintances</b>  <b>Neighbors GOD Others</b>  <b>Co-workers Ourselves</b>			1 Phone a friend you haven't talked to for awhile	2 Fix a family member's favorite food	3 Tell someone a joke or funny story	4 Say a prayer for the Administrators, Staff and Students in your School District
5 Smile and say "hello" to someone you don't know	6 Accept someone's offer of help	7 Present someone with a coupon to perform a future service or chore	8 Spend a few minutes reading and meditating on a scripture passage	9 Say a prayer for Peace	10 Give or send someone a photo of the two of you together	11 Take a walk and pray for those who live, work & play in the places you pass
12 Challenge yourself to add something extra to your offering envelope	13 Sing the Praises to others about someone in your family	14 Send a note or card to let someone know they are special	15 Give someone a hug	16 Perform a Random Act of Kindness	17 Reach out to someone you've been angry with	18 Call or visit a homebound relative or friend
19 Invite a friend, neighbor or co-worker to church	20 Bring a treat to a co-worker, classmate or member of a group you belong to	21 Play a game together as a family	22 Attend Ash Wednesday Services tonight at 7:00pm	23 Acknowledge you are a child of God and think about what that means	24 Tuck someone into bed tonight	25 Share a magazine or newspaper with someone you think would enjoy it
26 Let someone go in front of you as you stand in line or wait in traffic	27 Take a minute to think about something you are grateful for	28 Give someone a compliment	29 Slip a love note into the lunchbox, purse or pocket of someone in your family			

*FEBRUARY*

2012



# ZION'S MESSENGER

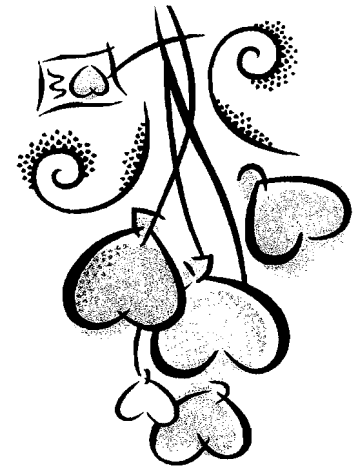
Pastor: Vicki L. Reeser  
Church Phone: 610-562-3112  
Church email: zionchurch@juno.com  
Church website: www.zionslutheran.org  
Church Fax: 610-562-0461

Sunday Church School - 9:15 A.M.  
Worship Services - - - - 8:00 & 10:30 A.M.



Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
354 Zion's Church Road, Shoemakersville, PA 19555

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