

Zion Lutheran Church

557 Perry Highway

Harmony, PA 16037

Rev. Timothy M. Dawes, Pastor

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From the Desk of the Pastor ...

Well now, we have been together for a month now and things are going well. We are getting to know one another better. I attended the Synod Assembly with Don and Cathy Loeffler from St. Paul and Marsha Davis from Zion. We were also in the company of Pastor Bev Banyay. The theme of the Assembly was “New to the Neighborhood; Always being made new”. The assembly voted to re-elect Bishop Kurt Kusserow and elected Barbara Nugent as our new Synod Vice President and Pastor William Schaefer as our new Synod Secretary. We were also treated to a visit from the ELCA Vice President, William Horne II as our representative from Churchwide. He related the importance of ELCA, Synodical and Congregational witness of the story of Jesus, to the world in which we live.

There were two keynote speakers. The first was Carrie Taneyhill from Lutheran World Relief, who shared the work done in Christ’s name for refugees (who cross international borders) and displaced people (who remain in their country of origin). Both groups of our neighbors had to leave their homes due to threats of violence and political unrest. Ms. Taneyhill also reviewed the importance of the Quilt & Kit ministry to those who left their homes with the clothes on their backs, just ahead of persecution. The second keynote speaker was Krish O’Mara Vignarajah. She is the president of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services. LIRS works to protect and embrace refugees, migrants, and children seeking a new life in America. Having carried out this work for more than eight decades having been founded in 1939 by Lutheran churches in the United States to serve uprooted people during World War II, the work continues with those seeking refuge today.

Attendees at the Synod Assembly were also invited to stand up and speak out against hate by Pastor Liddy Barlow of Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania and Rabbi Ron Symons of the Jewish Community Center. They invited us to recognize on another as neighbors and support and defend one another as brothers and sisters.

Pr. Tim Dawes Cell:724-709-0475 Email: tdawes@live.com

P.S.

We need a logo for the newly formed Zelianople – Harmony Lutheran Ministries. There are members of both congregations who are loaded with talent. Please come up with something to help others learn about our shared ministry.

Serving Zion in July

Ushers



July 7: Tom Bickert
July 14: Tom Davis
July 21: Debbie Muders
July 28: Ross Cummings

Greeters



July 7: Tom Bickert & Marsha Davis
July 14: Emily Cekella & Caleb Cekella
July 21: Dave & Jetty Kennedy
July 28: Donna Hall & Pam Ferrainolo

Money Counters



July 7: Al Stephens & George Measel
July 14: Shirley Fichter & Debbie Muders
July 21: Sally Measel & Evelyn Stephens
July 28: Pat Pflug & Linda Armstrong

Bulletin Sponsors



July 7: Pflug
July 15: **Available**
July 21: **Available**
July 28: Muders

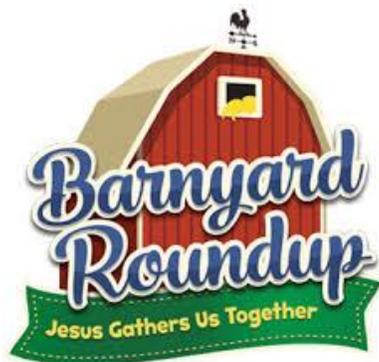
- If you are unable to serve on your Sunday, please trade with someone.
- Bulletins may be sponsored with a donation of \$15 per week, to offset the cost of the bulletins, and can be given to the glory of God, in memory of someone, or in honor of someone. Note “Bulletins” in the memo section of your check, and please call Melissa in the office if you’d like to sponsor the bulletins.
- Flowers may be given on the altar any Sunday. There are forms on the bulletin board in the entryway. Ask Melissa if you have questions.



CONGRATULATIONS to Bill & Jessica Gasior on the birth of their first child, a daughter! Eleanor Jane Gasior was born on June 6th, weighing in at 7 pounds, 8 ounces.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

FOURTH OF JULY PARADE: We'll be preparing a float for the 4th of July parade. Lots of help will be needed for this endeavor, both to decorate the float and to participate that day. Please see Shirley Fichter or Marsha Davis if you can help.



Vacation Bible School will begin on Monday, July 15th, at 9:00 a.m. here at Zion. Once again we are partnering with English Lutheran and St. Paul Lutheran Churches for this effort. Our theme this year is "Barnyard Roundup". Registration forms are available online in the "Forms" section of our website (zioninharmony.com), or you can find them at church on the table in the entryway. Get those kids signed up, and plan to come for some fun yourself!



HORSE TRADING DAYS

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE ZELIENOPLE AREA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

HORSE TRADING DAYS HAPPENINGS AT ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

- Thursday, July 18: Spaghetti Dinner from 4:00 till 7:00
- Friday, July 19: Lunch/dinner served from 11:00 until 7:00
- Saturday, July 20: Lunch served from 11:00 until 3:00

Dear Members of Zion:

I can't thank you enough for the awesome opportunity you have given me during the past 2 ½ years to serve as part of your ministry team. Every time I came through that fellowship room door, and then up the elevator to the sanctuary I felt completely at home. You always greeted me with so much warmth and love. I can't even begin to thank you enough for such an amazing gift. The celebration of my 30th anniversary of ministry, our backwards Christmas Eve Services, the way we celebrated All the Children of Zion—Each and every service was truly a blessing.

And thank you—thank you so much for that wonderful farewell dinner. Your generosity and your love are unending. The food was out of this world as was the community of friends gathered around each table. You are all absolutely amazing. It was also fun to finally meet Yvonne and to rekindle a friendship with John.

I pray for you and for your new pastor—Pr. Timothy Dawes, that each day you grow closer as together you proclaim the Good News to Zion and to the people in the Harmony area. And as I did when I was with you, I pray that one day every pew will be filled with people filled with the love of our Lord and Savior, Jesus.

Yours in Christ's service,
Pastor Susie Esseck

Dear Friends at Zion,

What a wonderful time John and I had at the Appreciation Dinner on June 9th. Serving at Zion was an extremely rewarding experience for me because of your warm, welcoming, and responsive nature. In my 11 years as a Rostered Lay Worship Leader, I have preached at 20 churches. Without reservation I can say that Zion, Harmony will always stand out as my favorite assignment.

Thank you for your cards, words of support, and especially your friendship. As we both begin a new chapter in our faith journeys, I will pray for a robust future for Zion.

Fondly,
Yvonne Thickey

My Dear Family at Zion,

I have started this letter many times, only to stop and delete every word when I realize how inadequately it expresses my love for each and every one of you. God has a plan for all of our lives, and part of his beautiful plan for me was the last 2+ years at Zion Church.

Through the wonderful messages God gave to me to bring to you, we spent many special moments laughing, reflecting, learning and even crying together. I know I always left the Church a better man than when I arrived, and on every ride home I knew that God had spent some special time with all of us.

Thank you for the wonderful dinner, the cards, and the thoughtful gifts and the humbling words. You all know by now that I am never at a loss for words, but I was last Sunday night. Thank you for your incredible support as we worshipped together each Sunday, and for your hugs and loving words each time we parted.

Finally, thank you for being the Christian family that you are. Without your individual dedication to our Lord and each other, we wouldn't have joined with St. Paul's, and we wouldn't have Pastor Tim, and we wouldn't be turning this chapter in all our lives.

I praise the Lord for all his gifts, and even though I wonder at times why he would have picked me for this journey, I realized during my time at Zion that He intends to make it "beyond all understanding" but magical all the same.

I love you all,
Now...."Go in peace, and serve the Lord!" Amen.
John Bulger



The women of Zion have been invited to attend "Dare to Be". This is an annual one-night event held at Victory Church on Sunday, August 25th, from 7-10 p.m. and is designed for women of ALL ages. The theme for 2019 is "Speak to the Storm" and Natalie Grant (a seven-time Grammy nominated Christian and Gospel artist) and Charlotte Gambill (an accomplished author, speaker, pastor, and mother) will prayerfully sculpt the night around worship, music and two full Bible teaching sessions. Attendees will be able to experience the fullness of a multi-day women's conference in an affordable, three hour, one night event. The cost will be \$25-\$40 depending on the number of women attending. So bring your friends, families and neighbors to experience an evening designed to encounter God and awaken your full potential in Christ. Attendance forms will be on the bulletin board. Just turn in completed forms to the office. Hope to see you there!

Zion's WELCA Fundraiser – Hoagies and Pepperoni Rolls

Because the WELCA ladies will not be doing the August clothing drive any longer, we have decided to try selling Pflugh's Country Market hoagies and pepperoni rolls. We will be taking orders from now through August 11th. They will be delivered on Sunday, August 25th. Following is the order form if you would be interested and would like to help us out. All the profits we make are given to various charities in December.

Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone Number: _____
12" Italian Hoagie (Ham, capicola, pepperoni, salami & provolone) \$8.00 each #__ Total: \$_____
12" Turkey (Turkey breast & Swiss cheese) \$8.00 each #__ Total: \$_____
NOTE: Hoagies include lettuce, tomato, onion and Italian dressing packets on the side.
6" Pepperoni Roll \$5.00 each #__ Total: \$_____
Total for Order: \$_____

FAMILY FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL

August 3, 2019
11 am-- 3 pm

GLADE RUN LUTHERAN SERVICES
425 W. Beaver Street, Zelienople

Cousins Maine Lobster, Bado's Pizza, Jim's Smokin Que, Hoshi,
Pittsburgh Pierogi, Graeter's Ice Cream, Emporio, Mac & Gold

Free admission, Free parking, Rain or shine.

Music, car cruise, and model train display, raffles





Minutes of Council Meeting
Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Attendees: Shirley Fichter, George Measel, Sally Measel, Debbie Muders, Pat Pflug, Al Stephens, Evelyn Stephens, Pastor Timothy Dawes

Absent: Bill Gasior

Devotions: Pat opened the meeting with devotions written by Pastor Elaine Hower of Bethesda Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lower Burrell reading from Corinthians 2:9-11. The church's vision team met to find ways to serve the community with food assistance. They already gave to the Food Cupboard, Meals on Wheels and Food for Children but they wanted to do more, so they opened a small drive-thru pantry to meet the daily needs of the less fortunate in the community with individual meals and personal items. This shows that a small congregation with limited resources can make a difference.

Secretary's Report: There was one correction on the report. The women of WELCA will provide the dinner on June 23rd to welcome Pastor Dawes, not Fellowship. Shirley made a motion to approve the report. Al seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: MAY 2019

	5/31/2019	4/30/2019
Checking	\$ 105,441.95	\$ 104,992.57
Petty Cash	25.00	25.00
Cash Balance	\$ 105,466.95	\$ 105,017.57
Less: Capital Improvements	25,200.57	27,375.57
Less: Designated Funds	33,821.67	35,329.60
Less: Payroll Tax Withholding	447.61	221.16
Current Budgeted Funds Available	\$ 45,997.10	\$ 42,091.24

Contributions by envelope and plate for May (4 Sundays) were \$9,873.00. Compared to our budgeted amount of \$7,000.32 giving was \$2,872.68 more than was needed to meet monthly budget. Receipts exceeded our budgeted amount on three Sundays last month. Envelope giving to date in 2019 totals \$54,074.59 (21 Sundays) and we are \$17,322.91 over budget.

It is important to understand that although our checking account shows \$105,441.95 most of that money is in designated accounts and can only be used for that specific account. The amount we actually have to pay our bills is \$45,997.10.

Our average weekly attendance for May was 54.

PennEnergy (Formerly Rex Energy) – Miscellaneous (Account #980)

Opening Balance was \$5,451.98. May receipts were \$240.61. May disbursements were \$100.00 (Harmony Fire District), \$100.00 (Joint Checking Account), \$1,600.00 (1/2 Moving Expenses), \$202.00 (1/2 Workers' Comp). Ending balance for May was \$3,690.59.

Parsonage Maintenance Loan Balance is \$4,000.00 as of May 31, 2019.

Shirley informed the council that one of our CD's for \$10,115.50 rolled over in May for another one-year term. Our debt for the Parsonage repairs is down to \$4,000.00 and will be paid off in July. We took money out of Penn Energy (previously Rex Energy) to fund Zelianople-Harmony Lutheran Ministries. This opened the new checking account and paid for Pastor Dawes' moving expenses and workman's compensation insurance. Shirley said that occasionally we might see 2 deposits from Penn Energy in one month depending on when the checks are sent and when we deposit them. A third of the check goes into the Cemetery Assn. account. Evelyn made a motion to approve the account. Pat seconded. Motion passed.

Pastor's Report: Since Pastor Dawes just started on June 1st there was no report. However, the Pastor made a few suggestions of what he would like to do in the future. First, he would like to set up a coordinated calendar for Zion and St. Paul's. This would show events like weddings, baptisms, concerts, etc. so events would not be scheduled on the same day. Secondly, he would like to have a contest to design a logo for the Zelenople-Harmony Lutheran Ministries. This logo would be added to stationery to identify the new joint ministry. And, thirdly, he would like to write a liturgy for those who have suffered a miscarriage, stillborn birth, SIDS, abortion. This memorial would be a once a year, small scale afternoon event held in October. Council then discussed if we would want to start up once a month grief counselling again. Evelyn told Pastor Dawes that Gloria Rice will be coming home soon.

Old Business: Shirley asked George what we were doing with the Food Cupboard lease. Sharon, the Food Cupboard director, has made the Rotary remove the items that were stored inside their building. Zion is storing those supplies, plus their freezer, in our basement. The council will not get involved in this dispute.

George said that he will call our insurance company to re-evaluate our coverage for Food Cupboard addition and improvements made to the church, parsonage and garages.

New Business:

Installation of Pastor Dawes: Council talked about having this afternoon event sometime in the fall. It would include members from Zion and St. Paul's and someone from the Synod and Glade Run. Both church choirs would be involved and other pastors would conduct the service. Pastor Dawes will ask at the Synod Assembly this weekend how to proceed with the program and then both churches can jointly design this joyful event.

Miscellaneous: Sally asked Shirley where Simply Giving shows up in the Treasurer's report. It is part of envelope giving. Evelyn reminded Shirley to raise the budget on evangelism which is advertising.

Shirley presented the council with a form sent by Lutheran Church Extension Society. They offer interest free loans up to \$25,000.00 for new construction, handicap access, etc. for \$50.00 a year. Sally made a motion to renew our membership and withdraw the funds from Penn Energy. Evelyn seconded. Motion passed.

Sally reminded council that WELCA would be taking orders for hoagies on August 4th and 11th. All hoagies ordered will be distributed on Sunday, August 25th. WELCA is selling hoagies this year in place of the clothing and rummage sale.

Team Reports

Property: Al told council that the new roofs on the garages have been completed. He said that the motor on the dehumidifier downstairs is not working, however, it is still under warranty and the company is sending a new one on June 12th at no charge. We should receive it in 7-10 days. The Bell Tower repair will begin in 2-3 weeks. Al reported that water is collecting around the sand mound and if we don't address this problem soon permanent damage will be done to the mound. He suggested filling in with dirt brought in by truck to absorb the water and to level the dirt so it will run away from the mound. George suggested we call Mark Rotnour to bring in the 4 truckloads of dirt we need because he has his own tri axle.

Fellowship: July 7 – Birthday/Anniversary cake; July 14 – Coffee Hour; July 21 – Strawberry Shortcake; July – Coffee Hour.

Every Member Involvement/ Meeting Human Needs: Linda suggested that she lead a class on how to use the AED (defibrillator) and show where it is located. It was asked if she could give a refresher course on CPR. She said she would pick a date for these classes. Also, she said would start checking blood pressure again the last Sunday of the month.

Worship: Worship Team met on June 5 with Pastor Dawes and Rosemarie. Rosemarie has Emily Painter scheduled to play for services on June 30 and August 25. Carol Zimmerman may be able to come in July. Dan Schall will be with us for a service on August 11; we hope to be able to have this service outdoors. Rosemarie will provide council with piano maintenance figures for the 2020 budget. We discussed our communion traditions with Pastor Dawes. He would like to serve communion every Sunday. For now we will continue with communion the first and third Sundays of the month and on church festivals. We will continue to use intinction and direct people to the communion rail to kneel if they desire. Worship assistants were assigned for the rest of June and July. There will be no Worship Team meeting in July. Next meeting will be August 7 at 7:00.

Christian Education: Shirley told council that Beth Cummings won a raffle for an hour with a petting zoo. She is donating this wonderful prize to VBS so they can use it on the last day with the children. Al questioned about the liability but Shirley showed council a certificate of liability sent by the company. Also, parents sign a liability waiver to allow their children to participate in VBS. Al said the best place to set this up would be between the tractor garage and pavilion.

Sally made a motion to approve that Shirley look into this. Linda seconded. There was 1 opposed and 1 abstaining but the motion passed.

Shirley told council that we need volunteers to pass out candy and flyers about VBS from our float at the 4th of July Parade. Mike Hall is providing a hay wagon from General Rentals for Zion to use in the parade. The committee will decorate the float.

Stewardship: The church audit was completed on June 4th and sent to Synod. Giving envelopes were ordered for 2020.

Executive Committee: Shirley collected the budgets prepared by the committees. This committee will meet after fellowship on July 21st to prepare the church budget to be presented to the council in September. This will give us time to make any corrections before the October deadline for November's Newsletter.

July Money Counters: 7th Al & George; 14th Shirley & Debbie; 21st Sally & Evelyn; 28th Pat & Linda.

August Money Counters: 4th Shirley & Debbie; 11th Evelyn & Shirley; 18th Pat & Linda; 25th Al & Bill.

Devotions for August: Evelyn

Next Council Meeting: Thursday, August 8th @ 7:00.

Shirley made a motion to adjourn. Linda seconded. Motion passed. The council prayed the Lord's Prayer and adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Muders
