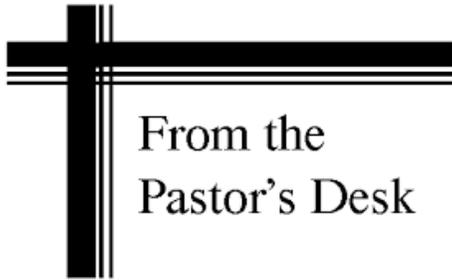


Zion Lutheran Church  
557 Perry Highway  
Harmony, PA 16037  
724-452-8886

Rev. Timothy Dawes, Pastor  
[www.zioninharmony.com](http://www.zioninharmony.com)  
[zion557@zoominternet.net](mailto:zion557@zoominternet.net)



## From the Pastor's Desk

### Let us reclaim our words.

During the Church Wide Assembly this August the ELCA reminded us that we are a **SANCTUARY** Church. The political divide in our nation equates this word with breaking laws and resistance to government regulations. It is NOT. It is an ancient word that is still used to describe the places where we gather to celebrate Word and Sacrament and God's forgiving love in answer to our sins and confession. This word is meant to describe a sacred space where all people can be welcomed and feel safe.

Another of our words is **EVANGELICAL** it has been hijacked. It means based on the Good News of God offering salvation to all. In our highly charged world, it has been used to describe ALL Christians as fundamentalists who vote with one voice on every issue and support only one of the political parties in our nation. All Christians are supposed to be Evangelical and live lives rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We all fall short of this and that is why each week we celebrate confession and forgiveness of sins. There are Christians of good faith who support a variety of political viewpoints.

Still another is **PENTECOSTAL**. Meant by some to be a short hand for those who speak in tongues and preach hellfire and brimstone often tinged with hatred of outsiders and those who are of different denominations or churches or faith traditions. Pentecost was the 50<sup>th</sup> day of the Easter season and the birthday of the church in all of its forms. The day when the Holy Spirit descended upon those gathered in the upper room and filled them. We are still celebrating the season of Pentecost in our weekly liturgies. Therefore, we are Pentecostal because we are filled with the Spirit of God at our Baptism and Confirmation and meant to proclaim God's salvation in all that we do and say.

Let us proudly reclaim our words. We are a Pentecostal, Evangelical Church and we provide Sanctuary to everyone. Because Jesus Christ lived, taught, suffered, died, rose and ascended to bring salvation to all the creation and every person. Let us live these words out in response to God's magnificent gift to us and to all.

Peace.  
Pr. Tim

PS: On another note, please contact the church office or me if you or a member of your family is hospitalized or anticipating surgery or procedures.



## Serving Zion this month

### Ushers



November 3: Mark Kristophel  
November 10: Al Stephens  
November 17: Carla Wright  
November 24: Pam Bintrim

### Greeters



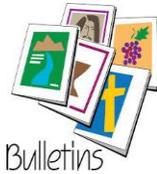
November 3: Carla & Dale Wright  
November 10: Tom & Edie Brain  
November 17: George & Sally Measel  
November 24: Alice Rubright & Vicki Moyer

### Money Counters



November 3: Sally Measel & Evelyn Stephens  
November 10: Pat Pflug & Linda Armstrong  
November 17: Bill Gasior & Al Stephens  
November 24: Shirley Fichter & Debbie Muders

### Bulletin Sponsors



November 3: **Available**  
November 10: Trimble  
November 17: **Available**  
November 24: Hall

### Recorder of the service



November 3: Ross Cummings  
November 10: Victor Kotomski  
November 17: Tom Brain  
November 24: Ross Cummings

- 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.

# 2019 CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS



\_\_\_\_\_  
YOUR NAME (as you would like it to appear in the bulletin)

I wish to place a poinsettia in the sanctuary on Christmas Eve, either **In Memory Of, In Honor Of, or To the Glory of God.** (See below) The cost of each poinsettia plant is **\$8**. They may be taken home after the Christmas Eve Worship Service. Orders for poinsettias must be received in the office on or before **Sunday, December 1.** Please place this form and the \$8 for each plant in the offering plate or give it to the church office. Thank you!

**Please note:** You may choose red, white or pink poinsettias.

**I wish to give the poinsettia(s) IN MEMORY OF the following:      # of each color**

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_ red\_\_\_\_ white\_\_\_\_ pink\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_ red\_\_\_\_ white\_\_\_\_ pink\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_ red\_\_\_\_ white\_\_\_\_ pink\_\_\_\_

**I wish to give the poinsettia(s) IN HONOR OF the following:**

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_ red\_\_\_\_ white\_\_\_\_ pink\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_ red\_\_\_\_ white\_\_\_\_ pink\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_ red\_\_\_\_ white\_\_\_\_ pink\_\_\_\_

**I wish to give the poinsettia(s) TO THE GLORY OF GOD.**

# of red poinsettias \_\_\_\_\_ # of white poinsettias \_\_\_\_\_ # of pink poinsettias \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL NUMBER OF POINSETTIAS ORDERED:** red \_\_\_\_\_ white \_\_\_\_\_ pink \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED @ \$8/PLANT:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I will be picking up the poinsettia(s) I've purchased...Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
(Those poinsettia plants not picked up will be given to our shut-ins.)

**Make checks payable to Zion Lutheran Church and mark "Poinsettias" in the memo portion.  
Thank you!**



Wednesday, Nov. 6	8:00 Worship & Music Team
Thursday, Nov. 14	7:00 Church Council meets
Sunday, Nov. 17	CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
Wednesday, Nov. 20	10:00 WELCA meets
Every Wednesday	7:00 Choir practice

Wow! What a great time to be a part of the Zion Lutheran Church family! So many interesting and exciting things happening all for the glory of God. Last month, it was an honor to be a part of church history as we installed Pastor Timothy Dawes. Pastor Dawes will serve our congregation as well as St. Paul Lutheran Church and the newly formed Zelenople-Harmony Lutheran Ministries. The ceremony was a beautiful occasion with many guest speakers, old friends, new friends, and a lot of positive collaborative energy.



Afterwards the social hall filled with laughter and talkative groups of people enjoying delicious food and fellowship. The day for me celebrated not only our congregation calling a new pastor but a new beginning for Zion Lutheran Church. I remember reading the bulletin and seeing the original song that was written for the occasion was titled "New Beginnings" hmm... "How fitting," I mumbled to myself. The Bible tells us of new beginnings in Isaiah 43:18-19

<sup>18</sup> "Forget the former things;  
do not dwell on the past.

<sup>19</sup> See, I am doing a new thing!  
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?  
I am making a way in the wilderness  
and streams in the wasteland.

God calls us to "forget" or let go of "former things" so we cling to our new identity in Christ. "See, I am doing a new thing!" The road ahead of us is long but with our new yoke with St. Paul and the formation of our joint ministry we are taking our first "steps" in making a way into the future. We must honor the past, but we cannot let the past hold us back from what God has for us in the future. I hope we all can say with pride, "See, I am doing a new thing!" and embrace this new beginning.

As always, as a representative of the church, I/we welcome back any member(s) that have not been present in recent weeks, months, or even years. Please join us on a Sunday for faith and fellowship.

With peace, love, and encouragement,

Bill Gasior

Church Council President



Thank you everyone that ordered from That's My Pan. The money earned from this helps fund the different charities that WELCA supports at the end of the year. If you still wish to order anything please have your order into the website or anyone from the WELCA group by November 1st. The orders will be back by the end of the month.



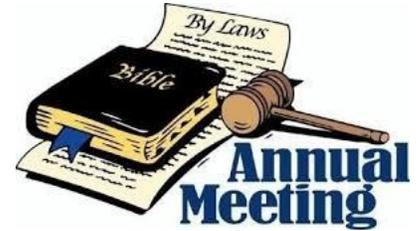
**Birthdays and Anniversaries** will be celebrated on November 3<sup>rd</sup> during our Fellowship Hour.

**Veterans' Appreciation Lunch** will be on November 10<sup>th</sup>. Join us for lunch to honor those who have served our country!

**Coffee Hour** will be held following worship on November 24<sup>th</sup>.

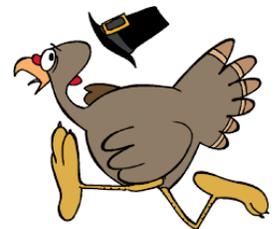
(There will be NO fellowship time on November 17<sup>th</sup>, due to the congregation meeting and the fellowship hall rental in the afternoon.)

The Congregation Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, following our worship service. Please be here for this important meeting!



The Chime Choir will play during our November 10<sup>th</sup> service. Rehearsals will continue every Sunday through November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The Annual Turkey Trot for the Food Cupboard continues through Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. Please place food items in your favorite turkey's lane, and let's see how much food we can collect for the food cupboard. "Vote" for your favorite turkey by donating food. Monetary donations can also be made by depositing cash in the can earmarked for the Food Cupboard, or through your offering (please note "Food Cupboard").



**Operation Christmas Child** is now underway! Please consider packing a box for a deserving child. We now have boxes available in the Fellowship Hall, along with suggestions on what to pack. Please pick up a box and other information today! Collection week is November 17, so please have your boxes returned to the church by that day.

The holidays will be here soon! On Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, the Ellwood City Chorale will be here at Zion to present a concert. The program begins at 3:00. Mark your calendar; you won't want to miss this!





**MEETING  
MINUTES**

**Minutes of Council Meeting  
Thursday October 10, 2019**

**Attendees:** Bill Gasior, Debbie Muders, Pat Pflug, Al Stephens, Evelyn Stephens, Linda Armstrong, Pastor Tim Dawes

**Absent:** Shirley Fichter, Sally Measel

**Devotions:** Linda opened the meeting with a reading from Psalm 136 and a devotion written by Reverend Rebecca Dittenhafer from Hatfield Ferry Lutheran Parish. She talks about how to eliminate discrimination and prejudice of women in ministry. This year is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ordination of women in the church. It's important to have equality in leadership in the church.

**Secretary's Report:** There was one correction in last month's report. This is Shirley's 4<sup>th</sup> year on council so she will have to resign being a Team Leader for a least a year. After that she can return to council as a Team Leader. Al made a motion to approve the Secretary's report. Pat seconded. Motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Shirley was not at the meeting; however, she gave information for Evelyn to relate to council. Line item 180 – Instrument Maintenance, has a negative balance of \$470.00 due to piano repair and tuning. Al explained that we need to purchase a blanket costing \$500.00 for the piano for heat and moisture control. We were informed by the repairman that the company that made our piano is out of business and we can no longer get replacement parts. So, we have to make sure we take good care of our piano now so it lasts as long as possible. After the purchase of the blanket that line item will show as negative \$970.00. Line item 570 – mowing expense also shows a negative balance of \$31.90 which will increase due to mowing season still being active. Pat made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Debbie seconded. Motion passed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2019:**

	<b>9/30/2019</b>	<b>8/31/2019</b>
Checking	\$ 96,767.34	\$ 100,104.51
Petty Cash	25.00	25.00
Cash Balance	\$ 96,792.34	\$ 100,129.51
Less: Capital Improvements	20,654.99	23,539.99
Less: Designated Funds	32,844.11	33,953.69
Less: Payroll Tax Withholding	(1.92)	566.78
<b>Current Budgeted Funds Available</b>	<b>\$ 43,295.16</b>	<b>\$ 42,069.05</b>

Contributions by envelope and plate for September (5 Sundays) were \$9,399.00. Compared to our budgeted amount of \$8,750.40 giving was \$648.60 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 \$90,901.19 (39 Sundays) and we are \$22,648.07 over budget.

**It is important to understand that although our checking account shows \$96,767.34 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 \$43,295.16.**

Our average weekly attendance for September was 52.

PennEnergy (Formerly Rex Energy) – Miscellaneous (Account #980): Opening Balance was \$3,904.45. September receipts were \$135.07. September disbursements were \$45.02 (Cemetery Association). Ending balance for September was \$3,994.50.

Council worked on the 2020 budget and made some changes from last month. However, Shirley was absent so we could not vote on the new budget. \*\*

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Dawes gave his report to Council for the Zelienople Harmony Lutheran Ministry. This consisted of home and hospital visits, meetings, Food Cupboard, Baptisms, etc. In performance of his ministry he traveled 399.8 miles. Pastor told us he did not get to see our members in Ohio. The council told him it was not absolutely necessary to

visit every month especially later when we are experiencing bad weather. He also said that he could not get in touch with the Rice's so he was unable to visit and give communion. The Pastor will be taking vacation from November 7th to 11th. He will contact the Synod to provide us with a supply Pastor for that weekend. He has made arrangements to have Pastor Reid Moon fill in for him at Food Cupboard while he's on vacation. He will also be on vacation during the week between Christmas and New Year's.

The Pastor at English has resigned so Pastor Dawes and Sister Mildred will be conducting confirmation classes.

### **Old Business**

**Food Cupboard Update:** Bill has tried numerous times to contact Sharon but has yet to receive a call back. He has not been able to talk to her about our lease concerns.

### **New Business**

**Update on George:** Bill visited George at Allegheny General hospital and said that he is in good spirits and feeling better and hopes to be home soon.

**Usher/Greeter Changes:** Starting immediately, all greeters will also serve as ushers for Sunday service. If you are unable to be there on your Sunday, please find someone to take your place.

**Worship/Sunday School Time Change:** Starting December 1<sup>st</sup> worship service will begin at 10:45 and Sunday school will begin at 9:30.

**Christmas Eve Services:** We discussed having services at St. Paul's at 6:00 and at Zion at 8:00. Bill will talk to St. Paul's Council President, Linda Flora, to find out if that would be acceptable for their church. Council will inform the congregation of service times when they are confirmed.

**Congregational Meeting:** Our meeting will be held after worship service on Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. Please attend as we will be voting on next year's budget.

**Operation Christmas Child:** Linda has already received pamphlets concerning this annual project. She will check with Marsha to see if we have boxes left from last year. All boxes will be collected by November 17<sup>th</sup>.

### **Team Reports**

**Property:** As you remember the boiler was not working on Sunday. Al called to have it repaired and was told it was an air block or bubble which sometimes happens when it is first operated for the season. Due to our annual maintenance agreement the boiler was fixed at no charge. Al has tried 4 times to call John Byler to complete the repair of the window sashes but has yet to receive a call back. Al will receive a contract from the man from Portersville who will perform snow removal this year. Al will start painting the registers on October 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Fellowship:** November 3<sup>rd</sup> – Birthdays/Anniversaries, November 10<sup>th</sup> – Veteran Appreciation, November 17<sup>th</sup> – no coffee hour due to meeting and hall rental, November 24<sup>th</sup> – the hall is rented so there will be an abbreviated coffee hour. The Ellwood City Chorale will perform at Zion on Sunday December 8<sup>th</sup> at 3:00.

**Every Member Involvement/ Meeting Human Needs:** The Turkey Trot has already started. Last day for donations is November 17<sup>th</sup>. Highway cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to help the sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. Linda will also put important information on the bulletin board about flu shots. She encourages everyone in the congregation to get a shot because flu season is already here. Pat said she will put up a Piggy Bank for donations for Food Cupboard. Pastor told Council about a meeting at Butler Hospital on Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10-2 for International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day. Anyone affected by such a tragic loss should see the Pastor for more information.

**Worship:** Worship Team met with Pastor Dawes and Rosemarie on Wed., October 2. Pastor Dawes opened with prayers and personal concerns for his wife and congregational members. We discussed changing Zion's Sunday service time to 10:45 a.m. beginning Dec. 1, the first Sunday in Advent, and the start of a new church year. Tom B. made a motion, it was seconded, and we all agreed to send this recommendation to council for approval. Worship team would also like to recommend that Pastor Dawes have a healing service and offer anointing during the service if desired.

Rosemarie told us that the piano has been tuned and other issues with the piano are being taken care of. Rosemarie has the chime choir planned, practices will continue through Oct. and they will play for the service on Nov. 10. Please support the Food Cupboard with donations on Harvest Home or through the Turkey Trot. We will be reading the list of needed items and passing the coin jar for monetary donations to the Food Cupboard.

*Reformation* is October 27th this year. Remember to wear red that Sunday. Nov. 3 is All Saints Sunday. Tom B. will read the list of people that have passed away and that we remember each year. Melissa will put a copy of the list to be read and you may add names to it or call her if you have any changes you would like made to the list.

Pastor Ralph Kusserow will continue to lead a Bible study at St. Paul's in Zelienople. He has changed the time to the first and third THURSDAYS at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Worship assistants were assigned for

the rest of October and the first Sunday in November. The next meeting of the worship team will be Nov. 6 at 8:00. We closed with the Lord's Prayer. Submitted by Pat Pflug

**Christian Education:** No report.

**Stewardship:** No report.

**Executive Committee:** No report.

**November Money Counters:** 3<sup>rd</sup> - Sally & Evelyn, 10<sup>th</sup> – Pat & Linda, 17<sup>th</sup> – Bill & Al, 24<sup>th</sup> – Shirley & Debbie.

**Devotions for September:** Shirley

**Next Council Meeting:** Thursday, November 14<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 P.M.

Al made a motion to adjourn, Linda seconded. Motion passed. Council prayed the Lord's Prayer and adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Debbie Muders

**\*\*A special Council meeting** was held following worship on October 13<sup>th</sup>. The budget was discussed and passed, so it will be presented to the Congregation at the meeting on November 17<sup>th</sup>.



Sally Measel, Stewardship

A Christian is:

A mind through which Christ thinks,

A heart through which Christ loves,

A voice through which Christ speaks,

A hand through which Christ helps.

Be Christ's mind, heart, voice and hand in the world.

## *November*

*"November comes  
And November goes,  
With the last red berries  
And the first white snows.*

*With night coming early,  
And dawn coming late,  
And ice in the bucket  
And frost by the gate.*

*The fires burn  
And the kettles sing,  
And earth sinks to rest  
Until next spring."*

— Clyde Watson

