

ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
39 PARADISE STREET
P. O. BOX 277
TURBOTVILLE, PA 17772-0277

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

ADVENT

163rd ANNIVERSARY

PUBLICATION OF
ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
TURBOTVILLE, PA

NOVEMBER 2019



THE ZION NEWS



Dear Friends in Christ,

Comedian Rodney Dangerfield used to say, “I have about as many friends as an alarm clock!” Truth be told, who likes an alarm clock? We all know what it's like to be snug under the covers and suddenly we experience the loud ring of a wind up alarm clock, the buzz or beep of an electronic alarm clock, or these days, some alarm tone that we've chosen on our cell phone. Perhaps with a great day ahead of you planned an alarm clock might be welcome, but I'd venture to guess that most days it's an intrusion on our rest and the call to start a busy day.

Who was the genius that invented the snooze alarm? Snooze alarms are electronically enabled procrastination. We really should get up at the first alarm, but it's easier to hit the snooze button and try to get just a few more minutes of shut eye. Recent studies have shown, however, is not really a good thing to hit the snooze alarm too many times, because it will make us feel weary and out of sorts when we finally do get up.

The reason I bring all of this up is because the season of Advent is upon us. The Scripture lessons for Advent certainly prepare us for the coming of Jesus in his birth in Bethlehem, but they also are also meant to prepare us for the second coming of Jesus Christ when he will judge the living and the dead. The Word of God in Advent acts like an alarm clock in our lives, calling us to pay attention to the arrival of Jesus. For example, our Epistle lesson for the First Sunday of Advent, Romans 13:11-12:

“Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light...”



'TIS THE SEASON TO SHOP THE MISSION MALL

Again this year we are offering our MISSION MALL -- an alternative form of gift giving at Christmas. If you dislike shopping in a crowded mall, don't like using the Internet, have problems finding just the right gift, have budget constraints, and hate wrapping piles of presents, our MISSION MALL has the answer!

We are offering the opportunity to share Christmas spirit by giving a donation to a worthwhile cause as an alternative gift. You can shop from our 'catalog' and will receive a lovely printed card with an explanation of the gift to give to the recipient. No hassle, no crowds, prices to fit every budget, and your gift is tax deductible.

This year, our 'catalog' offerings include meaningful causes that represent congregational, local, national, and international needs:

**American Cancer Society
Camp Mount Luther
ELCA Disaster Response
ELCA World Hunger
Haven Ministry
Montgomery House Library
Operation Delta Dog
Warrior Run Neighbors Helping Neighbors
Zion Nave Renewal
Zion Preschool**

WHO MIGHT APPRECIATE A SPECIAL GIFT?

- * Parents or grandparents with limited space
- * Sunday school teachers, music or dance teachers, school teachers
- * A grandchild, niece or nephew who already has lots of toys, and also has lots of people buying them more gifts for Christmas
- * A friend with whom you exchange gifts -- and you've run out of ideas
- * The person who already has everything imaginable

Brochures with our complete selections will be available so that you have time to think about your purchases. There will be a table set up in the narthex on December 8, 15, and 22 for you to make your purchases, at which time you will receive your gift cards and envelopes. Please consider our alternative to traditional gifts and give some Christmas spirit this year.

Gifts from the heart are the very best!



Annual reports should be submitted by the committee chairpersons **NO LATER** than December 31 in order to allow time to compile the annual report of the congregation.

Offering envelopes for 2020 will be on the table in the narthex in December. It would be helpful if you would take a neighbor's or relative's who might be unable to pick up his/her own. This will keep the cost of mailing them to members to a minimum. If you do not have envelopes, please contact the church office.



Please do not use the 2020 envelopes until January 1st the envelope number may vary from year to year.



The last date for 2019 offerings will be Sunday, December 29th. Please have all offerings to the church office by that time in order for credit to be received on your giving records for 2019. Contributions received after the 30th will be posted to the 2020 contribution statement.

Committees are reminded that they should make plans to reorganize for the new year. Chairpersons of committees need to be appointed and interested persons invited to join the committees. We're grateful to all who have served on council and committees in 2019.



St. Paul is saying, "It is the time to wake up because Jesus is coming, we don't know when, but it is certainly sooner than it was before. It's time to get out of bed, and get out of your nightclothes, and put on clothing for the day ahead. Don't hit the snooze alarm, don't ignore this Word of God." During the season of Advent we step out into the light of the new day that Jesus gives us, and as St. Paul says, "We put on Jesus." (Romans 13:14)

So how do we clothe ourselves in the "armor of light" or "put on Jesus"? New Testament theologian, Bishop N. T. Wright, gives us these practical ways:

"I know some Christians who in their private devotions each day make a conscious effort in prayer to clothe themselves with the very character of Jesus. Some people do this by reading, slowly, a story from the Gospels, and praying that the character of the Jesus they meet there will surround them, protect them, and be the thing that other people see when they meet them. For other people it's a regular discipline of remembering their baptism, the time when they were plunged into the water as a sign of dying with the Messiah, and brought up out of it is a sign of rising again with him, so that they are no longer living in the old world, but in the new." (Paul for Everyone: Romans)

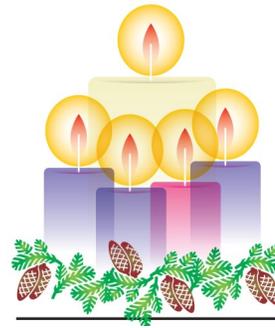
During the coming weeks of Advent as we prepare for the arrival of Jesus in Bethlehem, let us also prepare our hearts and minds for his final coming. The light of every day we live is another chance to put away old sins, old animosities, old ways of living that do not serve our God and neighbor. Shedding these old ways, we are able to put on what is most important, the very presence of Jesus who will guide us into his glorious light and life. May you have a blessed Advent as you prepare for his coming.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Roux

Advent: Come, Lord Jesus!

The new Church year begins on the First Sunday in December with the season of Advent. Developed in the western Church in the fifth century, Advent is a season of preparation that looks toward both Bethlehem and the second coming of Jesus Christ. The color of Advent is a beautiful sky blue, symbolizing the sky high hopes we have in the coming of our Savior. The scripture lessons appointed for the season focus on the second coming; on John the Baptist, the Herald of Christ; and on the Blessed Virgin Mary as the obedient servant chosen to bear God's anointed one. We at Zion will make careful use of Advent to prepare our hearts and minds for Christmas and the second coming through our worship.

The Christmas season in the Church lasts from the evening of December 24th through January 5th. It is a full twelve days of celebrating the Nativity of Our Lord. The color of the Christmas season is white, the color of all the festivals of Christ, traditionally suggesting gladness, light, and joy. We will begin this season of celebrating with candlelight liturgies of carols and Holy Communion on Christmas Eve at 7:00 and 11:00 p.m. Come, join us for worship in December. We pray that all members of Zion, and all Christians everywhere, will enjoy a blessed Advent and Christmas.



**Christmas Eve
Candlelight Worship
December 24, 2019
7:00 pm and 11:00 pm**

We are in need of Worship Assistants for Christmas Eve Worship. If you will be attending these please volunteer. Call Cathy in the church office or sign the sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex.

Worship Assistants needed for Christmas Eve Candlelight Liturgies

Ushers

7:00 pm (4)

11:00 pm (4)

Lector

7:00 pm

11:00 pm

Acolytes

7:00 pm (2)

11:00 pm (2)

Crossbearers

7:00 pm (1)

11:00 pm (1)

Communion Assistants

7:00 pm (3)

11:00 pm (3)

Presenters of Communion Vessels

7:00 pm (2)

11:00 pm (2)

Sunday School Teacher/Christian Education
meeting will be held Sunday, December 8th after
the 10:30 am worship service.



Sunday School Christmas Program
Sunday, December 22nd
9:30 am in the Social Hall
All are invited!

Sunday School Program Rehearsal
Saturday, December 21st at 9:00 am



MS HS
YOUTH GROUP
★ *Kickoff* ★

ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Middle School and High School Youth Groups
December 2019

We invite all youth to join us Middle School Youth Group is for 5th through 8th grades, and High School is for 9th through 12th grades. Amanda Stoudt is serving as our Middle School advisor, and Lydia Nugent as our Senior High advisor. Call Pastor Roux at home 570 437-9058 or church 570 649-5195 with any questions.

Youth Group normally meets the 2nd Sunday of each month. Group builders, devotions, games, projects, and food are part of every meeting. Other events will be announced.

December 8
Christmas Shopping for local
children in need. Meet at the
church at 2:00 pm.



FUN + FRIENDS + FOOD
FELLOWSHIP

Mark your calendars, invite your
friends, and plan to join us at
Youth Group!

**Upcoming Fundraising Events
Mark Your Calendars**

Details will be announced—Watch the Sunday Bulletins

Dec 21- Fish dinner (4:00-7:00 pm)

Beginning on Sunday January 4th Zion will begin our every other week soup sale. The plan is to sell two soups on Sunday/Monday during the months of January and February. We will need your help selling so please ask your family, friends and co-workers if they are interested in purchasing homemade soups for \$6.00/quart. Orders will be due the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month.

Soups:

Sale Date: January 4th (Orders turned in by Thursday January 2nd)
Beef Vegetable Soup
Ham and Bean Soup

Sale Date: January 18th (Orders turned in by Thursday January 16th)
Broccoli Cheese Soup
Chili

Sale Date: February 1st (Orders turned in by Thursday January 30th)
Chicken & Wild Rice Soup
Clam Chowder
Stuffed Pepper Soup

Sale Date: February 15th (Orders turned in by Thursday February 14th)
Chicken Corn Soup
Pasta Fagioli

Sale Date: February 29th (Orders turned in by Thursday February 27th)
Italian Wedding soup
Loaded Potato Soup

Please turn the orders into Lori Dyer by
emailing: dyer4fam@windstream.net or cell: 570-337-1015

THE NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS ARE:

MARVENE CRAWFORD
KARRIE RAVERT

WE ARE STILL IN NEED OF
TWO MORE COUNCIL MEMBERS
PLEASE CONSIDER SERVING.



The Christmas Card Mail Basket will be in place. If you have cards for members of Zion, simply clearly write the recipient's name on the envelope and "mail" them in the Basket. Deadline for mailing cards this year will be December 15th and ready for distribution on the 18th. Cards remaining after that date **WILL NOT BE MAILED** and are then your responsibility.

Altar Flowers sponsors are needed for 2020. The price per set is \$30.00 maybe you would like to share a set with someone, splitting the cost.



Altar Flowers



Anyone interested in purchasing a wreath for the Advent/Christmas season beginning December 1st, in memory or honor of loved ones should contact Cathy in the Church office. The cost of a wreath is \$15.00. Payment is due when placing your order.

Mitten/Hat Tree

.....will be awaiting all those colorful decorations of mittens, hats and scarves for the children. Our tree will stand for those much needed items until the end of December. Cold winds will be blowing, let's keep the little ones warm.



YOUR HELP IS NEEDED IN THE CHURCH OFFICE

Office coverage is needed to cover Cathy's vacation time between the hours of 9:00 am—12:00 noon. Call Cathy in the office if you can help or have any questions.

Duties include answering the telephone, taking messages, fold and stuff the bulletins for Sunday.



*Coverage is needed in the church office for the following days:
December 13*

Nave Renewal Update

Over the past year we contacted over a dozen general contractors asking them to consider our nave renewal project. Four contractors visited with us and two provided bids. The bid closest to our budget came from Gray Builders of Danville. Drew Potts and Pastor Roux have worked with Gray Builders to revise the plans to meet our budget. We are expecting the revised bid very soon. As always, if you have any questions, please ask Pastor Roux or Drew Potts, Chairman of the Nave Renewal Committee.



SATURDAY 6:00 PM WORSHIP

Join us for Saturday Evening 6:00 pm Worship. Our Saturday worship is meant to be helpful to those who find an evening worship time more convenient. It is a simple but inspiring service of Word and Holy Communion that includes organ music and traditional hymns. *Our worship on Saturday, December 7 will include “The Laying on of Hands and Anointing with Oil” for those who wish to receive this healing ministry.* We are also recruiting to form a Praise Group that will lead worship from time to time. If you play an instrument or sing, please contact Pastor Roux at the church (570) 649-5195.

Bucknell University, Susquehanna Valley Nursing Program, McCann School – some sort of Fall Welcome activity involving students and staff.

Feeding public school students during the summer – perhaps connect with the Milton YMCA.

“Emanuel 9” – perhaps an event on racial justice and a vigil in early June 2020. Pastor Drefke will serve as point person.

Next meeting: Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 39 Paradise St., Turbotville on Sunday, February 9, 2020 at 6:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM with a prayer by Pastor Drefke.

**Buffalo Valley Conference
December Events**

The following events are being held by churches throughout our conference. For additional information about a particular event, please contact the hosting church.

Also, the conference has a new Facebook page! Search **Buffalo Valley Conference** to ‘like’ and ‘follow’ the page. Announcements about activities and special events will come right to your news feed.

12/3, 6:00 PM – Interfaith Vigil commemorating the victims of the Sandy Hook school shooting (United in Christ, Lewisburg [570-568-2254])

12/7, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM – Community Meal (First Evangelical, Mifflinburg [570-966-0266])

12/14 – Stone Church (grounds of the Allenwood Federal Prison Camp)
1:00-2:00 PM – Open House
3:00-4:00 PM – Christmas Service

12/21, 4:00-7:00 PM – Fish Dinner. Menu: fried or baked fish, mac & cheese, stewed tomatoes, Harvard beets, coleslaw, rolls, dessert, beverages (Zion, Turbotville [570-649-5195]).

12/24, 7:00 PM & 11:00 PM – Christmas Eve Candlelight Services (Zion, Turbotville [570-649-5195]).

Now through December – Collection of food items for the Mifflinburg Ministerium backpack program (Christ’s United, Millmont [570-922-1860])

Now through December – Collection for Christmas-at-Sea for the Seafarers International House (St. John’s Delaware Run [570-538-2015])

**Buffalo Valley Conference All-Conference Meeting
Sunday, November 17, 2019
6:00 PM, Faith Lutheran Church, Lewisburg**

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 PM by Pastor Kate Drefke, who led the group in evening prayer devotions.

Pastor Justin Lingenfelter led the meeting. Each attending member introduced his/her self. There were 25 in attendance representing 8 congregations.

Old Business

Sharing information for newsletters – Mindy Bartholomew, point person, reported she initially received a great deal of event notifications from parishes, but things have slowed down considerably. Attendees were reminded to send their events (anything you want others to know about) to Mindy. She will then distribute them to the contact folks for each parish. Attendees shared how they distribute this information within their churches: bulletin boards, distribution sheets listing events, newspaper, newsletter pages dedicated to BVC events.

Facebook – Jonathan Moser, chief administrator, reported the new page is off to a good start having been up now for about two months. If a congregation would like an item of interest to be posted, it should be sent to Mindy or through Facebook Messenger to the page administrators. Attendees were asked to encourage their congregation members to 'like' and 'follow' the page.

Pentecost bonfire – Pastor Lowell Chilton, point person, has been researching this project. Pentecost is the last Sunday in May 2020. Faith, Lewisburg and Camp Mount Luther were discussed as possible locations for the event. Pastor Chilton would like to form a task force for this project in January to start planning. If interested in serving, contact him at Messiah, New Berlin.

New Business

Pastor Lingenfelter reported that United in Christ is hosting a vigil for the victims of the Sandy Hook school shooting on December 3 at 6:00 PM. This is an interfaith activity, and more information will be forthcoming.

There was a discussion about initiating a joint ministry service project which would make an impact on the region that individual congregation projects could not. Several ideas were put forth:

Camp Mount Luther – a workday followed by a meal and worship (e.g., replace amphitheater benches or renovate the Pine bath house). Terry Gardner will be point person for this project. A sign-up sheet for those interested was passed, and Terry will contact Chad Hershberger at CML about potential projects.

Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village – nothing specific discussed at this time.

**Electronic Giving Option
The Simply Giving Program
Endorsed by Thrivent Federal Credit Union**

Zion is pleased to announce the introduction of an electronic option for making regular offerings. Contributions can now be debited automatically from your checking or savings account. Our new electronic giving program offers convenience for you and much-needed donation consistency for our congregation.

If you are currently giving on a weekly basis, you will no longer need to write out 52 checks a year or prepare 52 envelopes. And, when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, this program will allow your weekly offerings to continue on an uninterrupted basis.

An authorization form is available from the church office.

JOLLY BUNCH

Jolly Bunch will meet December 11, 2019. Entertainment will be by Carl and Opel Schleppe.

We will enjoy a Christmas Dinner catered by the Station House in Montgomery. The cost is \$13.00. Sign up is on the table in the narthex. DEADLINE to sign up is December 1st.



Parmesan chicken and Ham
Scalloped Potatoes—
Baked Corn
Lettuce/Bacon Dressing
Rolls/Butter/Coffee/Punch
Chocolate cake with peanut
butter icing
White cake with coconut

Jolly Bunch members with Birthdays in December

Doris LaForme—7th
John Hemrick—22nd
Pastor Roux—26th

Shut-in members with Birthdays in December

Maxine Reimensnyder 20th
Phil Bower—12/30

Zion members in the military with Birthdays in December

Alisha Cox Welch—16th

We meet the second Wednesday of the month.

January—no meeting scheduled February 12 weather permitting

Stewardship Reminder

Affirmation and Response forms and Faith Promise cards were mailed to everyone in November. Please take the time to complete them and return them as soon as possible.

The “Affirmation and Response” form is used to indicate your intention to serve in one of the many ministries we undertake at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church. We worship God and witness to his love, we support service ministries, we grow in knowledge through learning, and we enjoy one another in fellowship. Please look over the many opportunities to serve and hear the Holy Spirit's call to you.

The “Faith Promise Card” is used to indicate how you plan to support the work of the Lord through giving in the coming year. Our General Fund pays our budgeted expenses throughout the year, the Building Fund can be used for any building expenses from repair to construction, and the Nave Improvement Fund will go toward the future renewal of our worship space. Again, consider how the Holy Spirit is calling you to give generously this coming year.

We wish to thank Dennis Sheatler for his years of service as Custodian at Zion. Dennis excelled at keeping our physical plant in top shape. May God bless Dennis as he retires from this work.



We welcome Rick Rovenolt as our new custodian at Zion. Rick comes to the task with a great love for our church having served in worship, Church Council, and committee through the years. Thank you for taking on this new task!

*To Zion,
I want to thank you for the Beef and Pot Pie and the much enjoyed Thanksgiving Meal. Also thank you for the cards and prayers during my stay in the hospital.
Elizabeth Sampsell*

*Pastor Roux and the Congregation of Zion,
Pastor Roux, thank you for your visits, prayers and blessings during Steve's recent surgery and recuperation. Linda and the rest of the family are grateful for your support as well. Thanks to the entire congregation for your cards, prayers and kind thoughts during Steve's recent surgery and recuperation. They have been very helpful in his recovery so far. We feel truly blessed to have you all as friends and fellow church-goers.
Stephen Shupp Sr. and family*

*Another successful apple dumpling season has come and gone, thanks to our many willing workers. Whether you buy, sell, make donations, or actually come and help make the dumplings, the Disaster Team would like to thank each and every one of you for your continued support.
We have not decided yet where we will work in 2020, but wherever we go we know that we have the support of our church family with us. When we can make a difference in the lives of the families we help, please know that you are a part of that change.
We ask for your continued prayer support for our team. May God's blessings be with you.*



December Newsletter

*deadline is
December 11, 2019*

Are you aware that we have ...

... large print Portals of Prayer?

...devotional booklets located on the table in the narthex and at the back of the church?

Large print bulletins are available for all worship services.

Children's bulletins are also available for worship services.

Just ask an usher.

Church E-Mail: zionlc39@windstream.net

Website: zionturbotville.com

Facebook: [zion turbotville pa](https://www.facebook.com/zionturbotvillepa)

Check out the pictures on Facebook

Synod USS Ark Want to keep up with the Upper Susquehanna Synod news? Here is the link

<http://www.uss-elca.org/uss-ark/>

Please remember in your prayers our members who are homebound,
in nursing homes or assisted living, and the military:

Birthdays are listed

At Home

Janet Reasner - 1/5

Earle Jarrett - 2/28

Alice Durlin - 6/9

Freda Keefer- 10/13

Dulcinea Eck—11/1

Elizabeth Sampsell 11/7

Maxine Reimensnyder - 12/20

Watsontown Rehab—Watsontown

Eleanor Trefsgger -9/21

Wolf Run - Hughesville

Joyce Snyder - 6/17

Rockwell- Milton

Dodie Day - 6/23

Manor Care North - Williamsport

Janice Metzger 4/15

Elmcroft—Montoursville

Phil Bower 12/30

Riverwoods - Lewisburg

Gladys Durlin - 2/26

Joan Webb - 10/10

Nottingham Village - Northumberland

Joyce Osman - 2/27

Joyce McCollum - 12/2

Military -

R. Scott Keister-3/12

Christopher Keister-4/2

Alisha Cox Welch - 12/16

John Rump-3/26

Keenan Young—6/27



Thanksgiving

Worship Service

Thanksgiving Eve Worship
at Zion Turbotville
Wednesday, November 27, 2019
9:00 am and 7:00 pm

We are in need of Worship Assistants for 7:00 pm Worship.
If you will be attending this please volunteer. Call Cathy in the
church office or sign the sign up sheet on the
bulletin board in the narthex.

✦ **You increase your child's capacity for empathy.** When you read fiction to your child, her brain is literally living vicariously through the characters at a neurobiological level. In other words, you're exposing your child to different types of people and giving her the ability to put herself in their shoes while you read. Growing your child's empathy muscle will teach her to be a friend who empathizes, a partner who can see her partner's side in a disagreement, and a compassionate person who helps others in need.

The one single habit of reading aloud to your child kicks off a chain reaction of all these positive outcomes. If you're looking for a "secret" to raising smart, kind kids, reading aloud is it. Great reads, both fiction and non-fiction, are available for your reading pleasure on the bookshelves in the narthex. Check out time is two weeks.

Excerpted and adapted from "Want to Raise Smart, Kind Kids? Science Says Do This Every Day." by Kelly J. Holmes, *Happy You, Happy Family*, October 2, 2019.

WARRIOR RUN NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

NOVEMBER is Thanksgiving month. I Chron.16:34 we read, "O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good". He has provided generously for us, let us give generously to others and find cans of pumpkin for our neighbor's Thanksgiving dinner. There is still time - let's go shopping!

DECEMBER

CRANBERRY SAUCE - It's a traditional part of our Christmas holiday meal; the meal seems incomplete without that touch of color and tang, so this item has been chosen for emphasis this month. You may bring either or both kinds of cranberry sauce, the jellied or whole berry type. Cranberry sauce is the perfect dish to accompany our favorite ham or turkey entrée. Please bring as many cans as possible during this month. All are so gratefully received.



Rev. Erwin C. Roux, Pastor (570-437-9058)

Leslie Hartline, Council President (570-716-3850)

Michael Yohn, Organist

Rev. Kenneth Elkin, Organist

Rev. Steven Middernacht, Minister of Music

Cathy J. Kelley, Secretary

Jennifer Woland, Preschool Teacher

Wendy Wood, Preschool Helper

Rick Rovenolt, Custodian

Office Hours: M-F 8:30 am to 4:30 pm - 570-649-5195

Church e-mail: zionlc39@windstream.net

Church website: zionturbotville.com

Facebook: [zionturbotville pa](https://www.facebook.com/zionturbotvillepa)

Prayer Chain Anchors:

Call before 9:00 pm

Team 1 Barbara Zettlemoyer 649-5358

Team 2 Clissie Sheatler 437-2215

Team 3 Martha and Lauren Weidner 649-5438

Team 4 Brenda Reasner 649-5749

✦ **Your child will hear a wider variety of words.** Here's why this is important: "The one pre-kindergarten skill that matters above all others, because it is the prime predictor of school success or failure, is the child's vocabulary upon entering school. Yes, the child goes to school to learn new words, but the words he already knows determine how much of what the teacher says will be understood. And since most instruction for the first four years of school is oral, the child who has the largest vocabulary will understand the most, while the child with the smallest vocabulary will grasp the least." (*The Read-Aloud Handbook*)

✦ **You grow your child's brain, literally.** The more you read to your child, the more the neurons in his brain will grow and connect together.

You put your child on the path to be a lifelong reader. Reading is essential for the learning process, and kids who struggle with reading tend to struggle in school. But you have the power to give your child this one key to success in school and life because "the single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is reading aloud to children." (*Becoming a Nation of Readers*)

✦ **Your child's behavior will improve.** When you read aloud, you increase your child's ability to pay attention and concentrate – skills that definitely help your child in school. Also, reading aloud to a child can even decrease aggressive tendencies in the child.

✦ **You build a stronger bond with your child.** Kids love when you read aloud to them because of the physical closeness and emotional bonding it offers. Time and again kids have said the most special time they recall spending with a parent is reading together. This makes sense when you think about it. In our busy modern lives, how often do we stop everything we're doing, *put down our phones*, and just enjoy time with our kids? A strong connection with your child leads to better cooperation from them, and that's something pretty much every parent could use more of.

LIBRARY NOTES

“There have never been, nor are there now, too many good books.”
~~ Martin Luther

Want to Raise Smart, Kind Kids? Do This!

As parents, we have big dreams for our kids. We want them to be smart so they can go after what they want in life and have a reasonable chance of getting it. We want them to grow up to be kind, caring members of the community. Now is the time to set our kids up for success in life. Short of morphing into a drill sergeant who fills every spare moment with flashcards and forced kindness, how can we raise smart and kind kids?

As it turns out, we have one magic “keystone habit” as parents that will help us raise smart, kind kids. (“Keystone habits” are “small changes or habits that people introduce into their routines that unintentionally carry over into other aspects of their lives.”) The best thing about this particular “keystone habit” for raising smart, kind kids is that it’s completely free, it takes just 10-15 minutes a day, and anyone can do it. All you have to do is this: Read to your children, even if they already know how to read to themselves.

As parents, the demands on our time are endless. We have laundry to fold, sibling battles to mediate, healthy dinners to prepare, and doctor appointments to schedule. Our kids need help with homework, the car is due for an oil change, and it’s our turn to bring snacks after the t-ball game. This is why when it comes to reading aloud to our kids, we tend to prioritize it lower. In a 2018 survey of American families, only 30 percent of parents reported reading aloud to their kids for at least 15 minutes a day. This is what happens when you read aloud to your child every day:

COMMITTEES AT A GLANCE

MONDAY

Disaster Relief Team 1st Monday at 6:30 pm
Jeff Furman—Chairperson

TUESDAY

Outreach 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 pm
Pastor Roux—Chairperson

Brenda Reasner—Council Rep

Stewardship 3rd Tuesday at 7:00 pm
Barry Durlin—Chairperson

Lisa Wehr—Council Rep

Property 4th Tuesday at 7:00 pm

Lynn Watson and Lee Bieber—Co-Chairs

Dave Hartman—Council Rep

Social Ministry 4th Tuesday at 6:30 pm

Rick Rovenolt—Chairperson

Dennis Webb—Council Rep

THURSDAY

Executive Committee 1st Thursday at 7:00 pm

Church Council 2nd Thursday at 7:00 pm

Worship and Music 3rd Thursday at 7:00 pm

John Craven -Chairperson

Leon Hagenbuch—Council Rep

Staff Support Meets when needed

Melissa Kilgus -Chairperson

John Myers—Council Rep

SUNDAY

Christian Education meets quarterly

Jeff Furman—Council Rep



Wednesday Prayer Service

Our Wednesday Prayer services are held at 9:00 am. For those looking for an additional opportunity to receive Holy Communion, the Prayer Group celebrates the sacrament at its service on the fourth Wednesday of every month. Join us for prayer on Wednesdays.



Current Fund Daily Expenses

Balance brought forward (9/30/19)	5,982.02	12,999.05
	October	YTD
Monthly Contributions	17,196.09	196,836.26
Monthly Disbursements	20,121.51	205,550.75
Balance (10/31/19)	2,864.60	2,864.60
Building Fund—\$12,524.34		
Nave Improvement—\$82,881.37		

IS YOUR ADDRESS CHANGING ?

We need your help to maintain our church records and to keep in touch with you. If your address has changed please notify the church office. You can call 570-649-5195 or email us your new address

zionlc39@windstream.net

We are being charged for every item that is returned to us due to an incorrect address, even 911 changes.



October Attendance

Total Congregational attendance at services:
 8:00 am - 261
 10:30 am - 215
 Saturday Evening - 55
 Wednesday Prayer - 63