

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

163rd ANNIVERSARY



THE ZION NEWS



THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

May 21, 2020

Join us for worship

7:00 pm

**PUBLICATION OF
ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
TURBOTVILLE, PA**

APRIL 2020



Dear friends in Christ,

We have now lived through more than a month of social distancing to slow the spread of the coronavirus, the pandemic that has come among us. How have you been managing? Everyone has had to adapt to keep to the stay-at-home recommendations from our civic leaders. For some it has been a painful experience. Some have suffered from the illness and some have died. Some are grieving the death of a loved one. Those who have lost jobs find themselves in a difficult financial situation.



*From the
Pastor's
Desk*

Loneliness can be discouraging for many of our senior citizens who can no longer get out to socialize. Younger folks are having to face disappointments with time away from school that might have included sports, dances, and graduations. Parents with small children are worried for what the future may hold for them. Many people have had to reinvent their jobs, finding ways to be productive while at home. Others must face the challenges of going to work to care for the sick or keep a store or essential business open, exposing themselves to the possibility of getting sick. Absolutely everyone's life has been affected one way or another, and we are eager for this very difficult time to end.

Some good news has appeared on the horizon as I write this, with the number of newly infected people declining, and talk of reopening parts of the country for life and business in the near future. We don't know when yet, but we do know that this difficult time will come to an end. The question then becomes, how will we be different? A worldwide and nationwide experience like this does not come and go without leaving some significant changes in the way that we live. Some degree of social distancing and a renewed faithfulness to good hygiene may be among the changes that stick. An even greater reliance on using digital platforms for work, school, and even church is likely to be a lasting result. Even more than the practical changes that are likely to become part of our everyday lives, many of us are also wondering what will become of the heart and soul of our nation, and our church?

I had a telephone conversation with someone today and we were wondering together how our world and church would be different from having moved through this challenging time. She reminded me of some wisdom that I have found to be true, even though it is easy to forget when times are at the worst. She said that "It's a matter of choosing to find the good in hard times, because the bad is so easy to find." For many of us it is so easy to pay attention to the difficult and painful experiences first. We say, "This task is hard to do," or "This situation is hurt-

Community Carnival: June 1st—6th
 Our church will be serving food under the Pavilion the first week in June and we will need a community of helpers. We will need food servers, food preparers, pie bakers, and a clean-up crew. Signup sheets are posted in the lobby for both volunteers and donations. If you would prefer to give a monetary donation, please designate the donation to the "Zion Carnival". If you have any

CANCELLED

ing me,” so those things grab our attention and consume our energy. Often we can't think of anything else until the task is done or the situation has changed. It takes effort to step back from what is painful, and choose to find the good that may come out of it. That can take time, and more often than not seeing the good doesn't come until after the difficulties are past. We more naturally see the good that may have emerged later on. At the same time, we can choose to be confident that something good will eventually come out of something that we experience as bad. Sometimes the best thing we can do is just be determined to endure the bad times a little bit longer. Something new will happen, and God will bring his grace to bear upon it.

When we find ourselves in a bad time and waiting for the good, we need to remember that we have a living Lord who understands. The writer of Hebrews says,

“For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

Jesus knew that he had much suffering ahead of him when he turned his face to go to Jerusalem. He even announced to his disciples that he would suffer and die there, rising again on the third day. The disciple Peter tried to stop him when he announced this bad news. But Jesus would not be stopped, and he kept his face turned right into the darkness that was before him, knowing that the darkness would eventually yield to the light. He went to the cross carrying the full weight of the world's sin on his sinless shoulders. He defeated sin, death, and the forces of evil on that cross, rising to new life on Easter Sunday morning. Ever since, the cross has become a symbol of the victory he won for this sinful and dying world. Jesus ascended to the right hand of God the Father and he prays for us constantly in the throne room of God. We can approach him in prayer because he knows how very difficult and painful life and death can be. He promises to grant us his mercy and grace in our times of need.

The difficult times that we are facing now will one day be over. Yes, there will be lasting and maybe even painful changes to our lives. But we can trust that we have a Savior who shares in our weaknesses, and he will help us to find the good. Look to his cross, a symbol of agony turned into a universal symbol of love and hope and forgiveness. May our Lord Jesus Christ help you to find the good.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Roux

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**The Joe Murray Band
Country Gospel Music
Sunday, May 17, 2020
6:30 pm**



Altar Flowers sponsors are needed

July 19, 26;
August 16, 23, 30
November 29
December 13.

The price per set is \$30.00. The flower chart is located on the bulletin board in the hallway outside of the church office. Please check for availability.

The Ascension of Our Lord
May 21, 2020
7:00 pm

**“A Project Linus Blanket Is a Hug When
You Need One Most”**

This is the tagline from the local Central Susquehanna Valley chapter of Project Linus. Even though Zion’s group hasn’t officially gotten organized yet due to the coronavirus circumstances, hopefully some of you have become “blanketeers” on your own at home. When restrictions are lifted, we will have the organizational meeting that was originally scheduled for March.

If you'd like to get started on blankets during this time of "stay at home", here are some suggested sizes to use as guidelines from our local chapter: Baby - 40" x 40"; Toddler - 45" x 50" to 52"; Child - 45" x 60"; Preteen - 45" x 60" to 65"; Teen - 45" x 72".

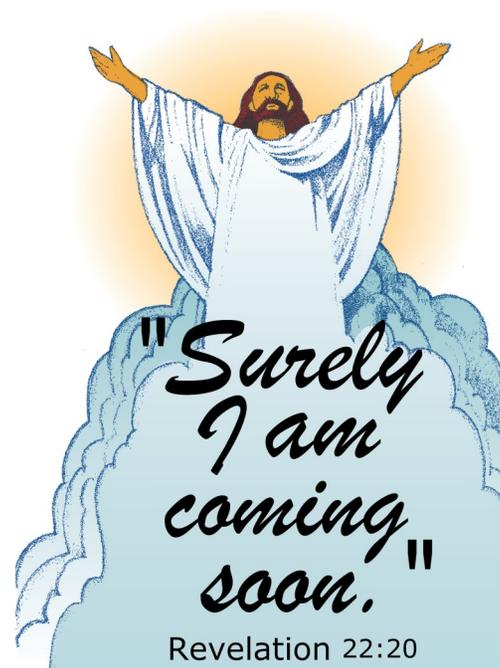
Blankets can be sewn, quilted, crocheted, or knitted. The local chapter has also requested bright colors, not pastels, even for baby blankets. There are many tips and patterns available on the national website... www.projectlinus.org.

If you would like project information, please contact Ann Gardner at 570-546-5880 or at algardner316@gmail.com.



The Ascension of Our Lord

In Luke’s gospel the risen Christ ascends into heaven and his followers are assured that the Spirit will empower them to be witnesses throughout the earth. The disciples were told to not gaze up into heaven to look for Jesus; they would find his presence in sharing the loving touch of Jesus with a hurting world. We too long for the Spirit to enliven our faith and encourage our mission. We will celebrate the Eve of the Ascension this year on Thursday, May 21st at 7:00 pm.



All church activities scheduled within this newsletter are subject to change depending upon the guidance of our civic leaders.

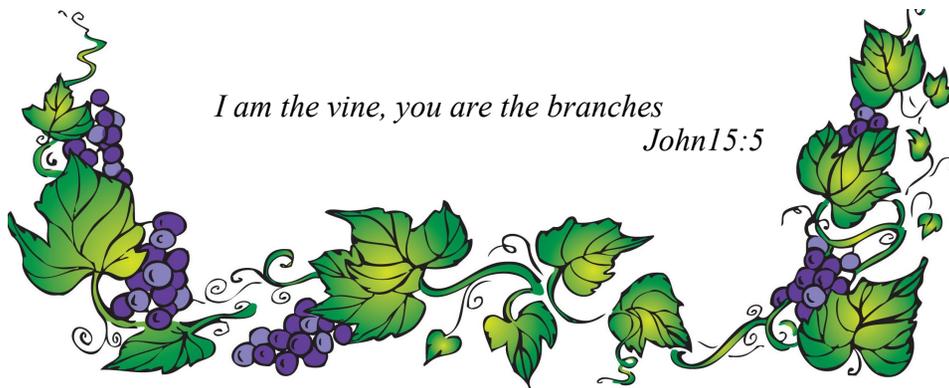
Ways to Be the Church during this Challenging Time

Ways to Care

- ~Pray for our world, our leaders, and our medical caregivers.
- ~Follow the guidelines of the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and our civic leaders.
- ~Check on our family, friends, the elderly, and those most vulnerable in our community.
- ~Let the Zion community know where we can help with needs.

Ways to Worship

- ✦ Read your Bible, sing favorite hymns, and pray.
- ✦ Watch for worship posts Wednesdays and Sundays on our YouTube Channel: Zion Turbotville
- ✦ Also look for posts on our Facebook page and website.
 - ~ Facebook: Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church (Turbotville PA)
 - ~ Website: zionturbotville.com



*There is no Frigate like a Book
To take us Lands away
Nor any Coursers like a Page
Of prancing Poetry –
This Traverse may the poorest take
Without oppress of Toll –
How frugal is the Chariot
That bears the Human Soul –
Emily Dickinson, poem 1286 (1873)*

Writing is also a key to keeping ourselves going. Keeping a private diary is what kept Anne Frank sane and growing and hopeful. As a Montessori School article about Frank and journaling stated so well:

“A private diary (or a journal, a notebook, etc.) is not only a practical advantage for aspiring young writers, of course. As Anne’s words show, it can be a sanctuary for the stirrings of a child’s own soul — a place to record basic daily events, or to consider life’s big issues; to angrily vent about the wrongs of others, or to soberly explore a lack of virtue in oneself; to bemoan past failings (in one particularly meaningful entry, Anne recalls “a long talk” and cry with her father), or to build future dreams. Ultimately, a diary can be a “support and comfort” in the forming of one’s very self.”

We are all bearing witness to an extraordinary circumstance, and writing down our experiences, thoughts, feelings, and observations can help let out some of our deepest fears and lead us to hope. Seeing how things unfolded for us day by day will help our children understand this chapter of their young lives someday, as well.

Excerpted and adapted from “Balm to the Soul” by Elizabeth Bluemle, *PW ShelfTalker*, March 24th, 2020.



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JOLLY BUNCH

Jolly Bunch's next meeting to be determined

Jolly Bunch members with Birthdays in May
Phyllis Chaapel—19th

We meet the second Wednesday of the month.

LIBRARY NOTES

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

How Are You Coping?

We have been in “stay at home” mode for weeks now with possibly weeks more to come. Businesses are shuttered, all students are now in a ‘home schooling’ situation for the rest of the academic year, and we are even experiencing church in a new way. We are all trying to find ways to cope with the new normal. As suggested by this article (the author is a bookstore owner and children’s writer), reading and writing can be key to getting through this experience. As the novelty of our situation wears off and we are left just with the novel coronavirus, it can make us cranky and frustrated. Now is the time to be kindest to each other and ourselves.

Reading books is calming, and shared reading time is connecting. Pull those favorite books off your shelves and enjoy a family read-together. Find a classic that transcends age, one that everyone can take something from. Or have everyone pick his or her own book to read, in the same room, for a half hour together. Even sitting around the living room, each person with a book reading quietly, is soothing to the soul. It also can give us a feeling of privacy and sanctuary.

You may have seen this factoid circulating on the Internet lately about Anne Frank... eight people hid in a space 450 square feet small for 760 days, unable to go outside, in fear for their lives. If they could do that, we can do this. And to do it, books can help. Books allow our minds to escape, to travel, to dream, to be inspired, to learn.



Summer Office Hours

Our church office will be closed on Fridays, beginning May 29 through August 28 except for the newsletter Fridays.



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

Camp Mt. Luther's Response to COVID-19

Camp is responding to the COVID-19 virus in a number of ways. Here is what we are actively doing during this time:

- First, we developed a webpage where we are regularly posting resources to help parents and kids affected by school and other closings. You can set up a "camp-like" experience by using the new resources each day! And, this week, we have activities for kids for Holy Week. For more information, visit <https://www.campmountluther.org/coronavirus/>
- During the first two weeks of the school closures, we invited folks to take family hikes at the camp. We had about 30 people on various days walking around camp. With the governor's "stay-at-home" order in early April, we stopped offering those hikes.
- The camp board met via Zoom on Saturday, March 21, 2020. Chad and the board are closely monitoring the situation and are making decisions as the need dictates. Two decisions were made at that meeting. First, the board committed to having camp this summer. What that looks like remains to be seen. But, we will be providing some kind of programming this summer whether it is as previously scheduled, a condensed schedule, or maybe even camp on-line! We will keep you posted as we get closer to summer as to what we will be doing, but know that we will do something! Also, the board decided that we are going to extend the early registration deadline and discount until the end of the summer. So, everyone can take advantage of the early registration discount of \$25 no matter when you register. There will also not be any late fees added this summer.



REGISTER ON-LINE! GO TO www.campmountluther.org

Please note: if you register on-line, you still need to get a health form filled out and signed by a doctor.
You can also get a list of items to bring to camp on our website.



CAMP MOUNT LUTHER

355 Mt. Luther Lane • Mifflinburg, PA 17844

Phone: (570) 922-1587 • Fax: (570) 922-1118

E-Mail: cml@campmountluther.org



Thanks to all who have been making masks for local hospital and our parishioners. Many hours of loving service have been contributed!

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

Thanks to everyone for reaching out with phone calls and words of encouragement. We all need a good word of hope in this difficult time. May God bless you as you continue to reach out!



Preschool Registration

Preschool registration are being accepted for 2020/2021 school year. If you know of children who wish to apply or have questions contact the church office.



Current Fund Daily Expenses

Balance brought forward (2/29/20)	586.36	7,971.00
	March	YTD
Monthly Contributions	18,452.62	55,434.64
Monthly Disbursements	17,250.38	61,733.04
Balance (3/31/20)	1,596.60	1,596.60

Building Fund—\$12,960.17
Nave Improvement—\$100,648.07

Attendance March 1—15, 2020

Total Congregational attendance at services:
 8:00 am - 156
 10:30 am - 110
 Saturday Evening - 52
 Wednesday Prayer - 27

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. We are 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.

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.

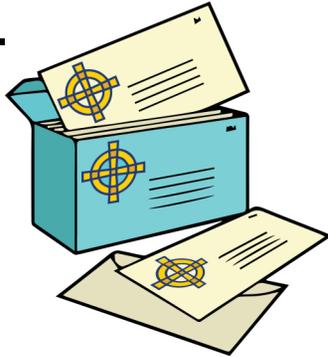


**Electronic Giving Option
The Simply Giving Program
Endorsed by Thrivent Federal Credit Union**

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.



Your offerings are needed now more than ever

You may continue to send your weekly offerings to Zion in one or more of the following ways:

- By mailing your offering to Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, P O Box 277, Turbotville, PA 17772;
- Via the Zion website located at www.zionturbotville.com. Just click on the yellow button that reads "Donate online to support Zion Evangelical"
- By dropping off your offering at the church Monday—Friday 8:30 am—4:30 pm
- Through the mobile phone app: GivePlus

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

Marvene Crawford—Council Rep
Stewardship 3rd Tuesday at 7:00 pm
Barry Durlin-Chairperson
—Council Rep

Property 4th Tuesday at 7:00 pm
Lynn Watson and Lee Bieber– Co-Chairs
Karrie Ravert—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 went needed
-Chairperson

John Myers—Council Rep

SUNDAY

Christian Education meets quarterly

Jeff Furman—Council Rep

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

Mary Kauffman, Council President

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



May Newsletter

deadline is

May 13, 2020

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)

YouTube channel: [Zion Turbotville](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

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

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

Elmcroft—Lewisburg

Alice Durlin - 6/9

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

WARRIOR RUN NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

MAY

Sweet, succulent pineapple is what we shall bring for our neighbors in May. Bring pineapple in large or small cans, crushed, chunked, sweetened or unsweetened. Can't beat the taste! Let's fill our shopping carts with pineapple for our neighbors this month. Many thanks for your generosity.



The Scholarship Fund Committee proudly announces that monies will be available for scholarship applicants for the fall semester 2020. The scholarship is a one-time gift per applicant to be awarded after the student completes the second semester of an approved college degree program. **Student must provide:**

- A fully completed and signed application form to the church office by **June 1, 2020**
- Copy of first semester transcripts.
- Recent snapshot/school picture.

Payment will go directly to the college address provided on the application.

Application forms are available through the church office.

