

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

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**164<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY**



# THE ZION NEWS

For I know  
the plans I have  
for you,  
declares the LORD,  
plans for welfare  
and not for evil,  
to give you a future  
*and a hope.*

Jeremiah 29:11

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TURBOTVILLE, PA

**SEPTEMBER 2020**

If the issue is that your child won't sit still for distance learning classes, or, that there is a particular app he doesn't like to use, more than one expert recommended setting a timer, especially for little kids. A timer that children can see is ideal. Work on building stamina, which is something they do in a normal classroom. First, try setting the timer for five minutes and asking the child to do whatever task they don't love for that amount of time. Then try ten minutes. This may help reduce conflict because you're not the one enforcing it — it's the timer.

If they dislike mask-wearing, get them involved in picking out or decorating their own masks and talking positively about which kids in class have the coolest ones. Their buy-in on this issue is really important this year.

**Don't catastrophize.** It's easy to stay up nights worrying about your kids' education and working yourself into a fear spiral of "what ifs". But it's important that we don't show our kids how anxious we might be. We want to build resilience, and we do that by acknowledging that things aren't the way we hope they are. But we still look forward to specific aspects, and we can learn from the experience as it's happening. There are some things your kids may even prefer about distance learning, so don't assume all the changes will have negative effects. This time can also get kids comfortable with uncertainty — which is all around us, even when we're not in a pandemic. For example, when we're in a rainy spell, we don't know when we're going to have our next sunny day for sure.

That said, if your children are miserable in whatever learning scenario you're in, you should absolutely speak to their teachers. You have to be your child's advocate. Teachers don't get to see your kids, all day every day. Communication is going to be critical in providing the most effective and social emotional instruction. With everyone — teachers, parents, and children — putting forth their best efforts in this time of uncertainty, the outcome is bound to be better than we expect.



Excerpted and adapted from "Keeping a Love for School Alive" by Jessica Grose, *The New York Times Parenting*, September 2, 2020.

## LIBRARY NOTES

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

### Love of School in the Time of COVID

Whether your kids are learning remotely, doing some hybrid of online and in-person, or back fully in-person, with new protocols like masks, social distancing, and staying in only one classroom, school will most likely not look anything like it did in February. You're probably wondering: How do I keep their love of school alive in these unusual and unstable circumstances? A kindergarten teacher, a child psychologist, and a learning specialist offer these suggestions.

**Create a welcoming at-home learning environment with clear boundaries.** All three experts agreed: Treat a distance-learning school day the same way you'd treat an in-person school day. Kids need to get up at the same time, get dressed, eat breakfast, brush their teeth and hair, and sit down in a specially designated school area. Even if you have limited space, you can set up an inexpensive cardboard study carrel at the kitchen table for your child and get a box for them to store their supplies, just to create a visual delineation between their school area and the rest of the house. Be sure to put toys and other fun activities out of sight during school time, for you don't want a visual reminder of something they would rather be doing. If you have more than one child, try to separate them as much as possible and have them use headphones.

Get the kids involved in picking out their school supplies, even if you are shopping online. You can even clean up and redecorate last year's items, like backpacks, without buying new supplies.

**Figure out what they hate, and why they hate it.** Some parents have discovered that their kids do not like online platforms (e.g., Zoom), and that it's impossible to get them to sit for their classes. If your children are like this, first try to identify specifically what they dislike about it. Do they hate being on camera? Do they dislike speaking in front of large groups? When you've identified the particular problem, you can try to mitigate it through camera settings or talking to your child's teacher. For some children, hiding their own video window so they don't have to see themselves can psychologically make a difference.



Dear Friends in Christ,

This September marks fifteen years of ministry that I have shared with you as your Pastor. Together we have accomplished much work for the kingdom of God. I could not have imagined what was in store for our ministry together, and for my own family when we first arrived. But God has been good, the years have unfolded as God has intended. I am grateful for all of the blessings that God sent our way.

Right now, we stand looking into our future and wondering what will be. The pandemic of COVID-19 and the resulting challenges have changed our ministry for the time being. I never imagined that we would be relying on digital resources to be together and worship, or that we would have to take such a long break from many of our normal ministries. It has been a difficult time and we may honestly admit that it has been painful to be away from one another and unsure of when we will all be able to gather together to resume our work.

The truth is, when we are hurting it is difficult, if not impossible, to see beyond our immediate circumstances. There seems to be no end in sight to the pain. No light at the end of the tunnel to give us a bit of hope.

When the people of Israel suffered the pain of exile in Babylon and saw no end in sight, God sent them a message of hope through the prophet Jeremiah: "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for wholeness and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." (Jeremiah 29:11) At the end of sixty years, the Lord said, he would fulfill his promise and bring his people back home. There was an end in sight after all, in God's sight.

## Zion Preschool is Back in Session

Our Zion Preschool is again serving our community with 12 students in attendance. We say goodbye to Wendy Wood, who has served as our Preschool Helper the past six years. We now welcome a new Preschool Helper, Pam Armstrong, to our staff. Pam is elementary certified, and has had two children attend our preschool program. Jen Woland, our Preschool Teacher, rejoices at the beginning of this new year and looks forward to a productive, safe, and healthy time with the children. The goal of Zion Preschool has always been to share the Gospel in an age-appropriate way, and to prepare children for the academic skills they need to begin kindergarten. Throughout nearly 30 years of activity, we have accomplished just that. Thanks be to God!

For centuries, God's people waited for the Savior to come. When the time was right, God sent his Son into the world to save us. On the cross, he carried all our grief, sickness, pain, sorrow, and loss. And by his resurrection, he revealed his power to make us whole.

The Lord knows when our pain began, and he knows when he will end it. In Christ, God shows us his love for us right now and gives us the hope of his healing in his time. We can trust our heavenly Father, knowing that the timing and the outcome of our current challenges are in his sight and in his hand. Let us live in trust and hope, knowing that God intends to enliven and continue our ministry through his Holy Spirit. In the years to come, we will remember this challenging time, both the difficulties, and the ways that God used it to make us strong. And we will continue to carry on his mission of making disciples, baptizing and teaching, loving our neighbor, and loving God with all our heart, soul, strength, and mind.

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Roux



### Preschool Wishlist

Antibacterial Wipes (For Hands)  
Disinfectant Wipes (For Cleaning)  
Small Paper Plates ~Napkins ~Paper Towels

*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-TH 8:30 am to 4:30 pm - 570-649-5195*

*Church e-mail: [zionlc39@windstream.net](mailto:zionlc39@windstream.net)*

*Church website: [zionturbotville.com](http://zionturbotville.com)*

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

*You Tube Channel: Zion Turbotville*

***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*



## JOIN US FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School meets at 9:15 am. We offer classes for all ages and most of the classes are shaped by an award winning curriculum entitled "Growing in Christ." The following classes are available:

Preschool—Kim Litchard and Meghan Zettlemoyer

Kindergarten to Grade 2—Brittany Lynch and Beth Roux

Grades 3 - 6—Amanda Stoudt

Grade 7 - 12—Pastor Roux

## Harvest Home



Harvest Home will be observed on Sunday, September 20, 2020. Everyone is invited to bring commercially canned fruits or vegetables that will be distributed locally along with our Harvest Home monetary offerings. These items can be brought to worship on that weekend, or dropped off in the narthex during the week.



### **Affirmation of Baptism**

Our celebration of Reformation Sunday on October 25<sup>th</sup> will be an especially joyous occasion this year. Alexis Nicholas, Thomas Royles, Bella Shupp, Cole Shupp, Connor Snyder and Madeline Stoudt will participate in the rite of Affirmation of Baptism on that day. They have completed a two-year period of instruction and are ready to make public profession of their faith and assume a greater responsibility in the life of our Christian community and its mission in the world.

They will promise:

- to live among God's faithful people
- to hear His word and share His supper
- to proclaim the Good News of God in Christ through word and deed.
- to serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus, and
- to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

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

*Birthdays are listed*

#### **At Home**

*Freda Keefer- 10/13*

*Dulcinea Eck—11/1*

*Elizabeth Sampsell 11/7*

*Maxine Reimensnyder - 12/20*

#### **Watsontown Rehab—Watsontown**

*Eleanor Trefsger -9/21*

#### **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*

#### **Muncy Valley—Muncy**

*Joyce McCollum - 12/2*

#### **Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village—Lewisburg**

*William Wesner—8/8*

#### **Maria Hall—Danville**

*Janet Reasner - 1/5*

#### ***Military -***

*R. Scott Keister-3/12*

*John Rump-3/26*

*Christopher Keister-4/2*

*Keenan Young—6/27*

*Alisha Cox Welch - 12/16*



## Current Fund Daily Expenses

|                                   |               |            |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|------------|
| Balance brought forward (7/31/20) | 38,943.09     | 7,971.00   |
|                                   | <b>August</b> | <b>YTD</b> |
| Monthly Contributions             | 18,283.00     | 154,177.90 |
| Monthly Disbursements             | 20,415.26     | 124,494.07 |
| Balance (8/31/20)                 | 36,618.83     | 36,618.83  |

Building Fund—\$11,287.50  
Nave Improvement—\$107,583.48

**All students' Grade School through College**

In order to maintain our church records, we need information. Please fill out the form below with the information requested or you can email the office at [zionlc39@windstream.net](mailto:zionlc39@windstream.net). This information is important to us so that we may contact you with upcoming events.

Student (s) name \_\_\_\_\_

Students Grade in school (2020/2021) \_\_\_\_\_

Student (s) Birth date \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Parents/Students cell phone \_\_\_\_\_

Or the best way we can contact you  
with upcoming events



**MS HS**  
**YOUTH GROUP**  
*★ Kickoff ★*

**MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL  
YOUTH GROUPS KICK OFF**

All youth in Fifth through Twelfth grades are invited to a joint meeting on Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 to 8:00 pm. We will share games, group builders, a devotion and food.

***Bring a friend and join us!***



**MONEY COUNTERS—October**

- 4 John Myers/Cortney Shupp/Dave Hartman
- 11 Jeff Furman/Marvene Crawford/Dennis Webb
- 18 Karrie Ravert/Dave Hartman/John Myers
- 25 Marvene Crawford/Dave Hartman/Jeff Furman



*October Newsletter*

*deadline is*

*October 7, 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](mailto:zionlc39@windstream.net)***

***Website: [zionturbotville.com](http://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/>***

**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:

- Offerings will be received at our regular worship times.
- 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](http://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—Thursday 8:30 am—4:30 pm
- Through the mobile phone app: GivePlus



# JOLLY BUNCH

I miss seeing each of you every month. I pray that you are staying safe and healthy. This can be such an unsettling time, but also a time to slow down and enjoy life even if we miss our usual going here and there. I find that I have more time to read the Bible and also enjoy my gardens.

There will not be any Jolly Bunch meetings for the rest of the year and we will evaluate things next year.

In the meantime, I want to tell you that we have lost two of our members this year. They are Joyce Snyder, a long time member. Also Alice Cotner has died. She was not a member of Zion, but she was a faithful member of our Jolly Bunch. Both will be missed.

For our November newsletter, I would like to list anyone who has died that you would like our members to hold up in prayer. This would bring us together in spirit if not bodily. We usually have a memorial service in November and I thought this would be a nice alternative. Call the church office with these names and send an e-mail to the church.

Meanwhile remember each of our members and keep in touch as this helps when we can't be visiting as usual. Stay safe and healthy. See you soon as we are able. HUGS to each of you. *Marie Gardner*

### Jolly Bunch members with Birthdays in October

Leroy Cotner—4th  
Martha Weidner—21st  
Pastor Steve Middernacht—23rd

### Shut-in members with Birthdays in October

Joan Webb—10th  
Freda Keefer—13th

## Ways to Be the Church during this Challenging Time

### Ways to Care

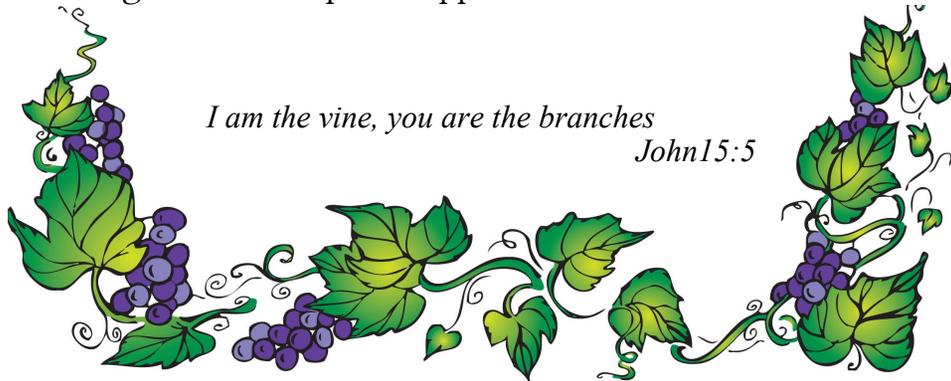
- Pray for our world, our leaders, and our medical caregivers.
- Follow the guidelines of the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and our civic leaders.
- Check on family, friends, the elderly, and those most vulnerable in our community.
- Let the Zion community know where we can help with needs.

### Ways to Worship

- Read your Bible, sing favorite hymns, and pray.
- Watch for worship posts Sundays on our YouTube Channel: Zion Turbotville
  - ~Watch our 10:30 am worship service live streamed on our Facebook page.
- Also look for posts on our Facebook page and website.
  - ~Facebook: Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church (Turbotville PA)
  - ~Website: [zionturbotville.com](http://zionturbotville.com)
  - ~ YouTube Channel: Zion Turbotville

### Ways to Give to Zion

- Offerings will be received at our regular worship times.
- By mailing your offering to Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church,  
P O Box 277, Turbotville, PA 17772
- By dropping off your offering in the church narthex  
Monday—Thursday 8:30 am—4:30 pm
- Via the Zion website located at [www.zionturbotville.com](http://www.zionturbotville.com).  
Just click on the yellow button that reads  
“Donate online to support Zion Evangelical”
- Through the mobile phone app: GivePlus



### **PASTOR AVAILABLE**

Please feel free to contact Pastor Roux at any time for telephone conversations. You may reach him at his home at 570-437-9058. If he is not available, please leave a message and he will return it as soon as possible.



### *September Office Hours*

*The church office will be closed on  
October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>d</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>*

## **WARRIOR RUN NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS**

### **OCTOBER**

This month, let us think “orange” and bring cans of sweet potatoes and yams for our friends. We will find them in small cans and large cans. Bring any size or any brand - all our welcome. These will be delivered by November in time for the planning of our friend's Thanksgiving meals.

*Donations may be dropped off  
at the church narthex.*