

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

167th ANNIVERSARY



THE ZION NEWS

AND YOU SHALL KNOW THE
AND THE TRUTH
SHALL MAKE YOU FREE!
JOHN 8:32

PUBLICATION OF
ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
TURBOTVILLE, PA

SEPTEMBER 2023

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church Saturday, October 21st

39 Paradise Street, Turbotville PA 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM
(570) 649-5195 Drive-through only



Home- made Pot Pie

*We will be serving both Chicken Pot Pie
and Beef Pot Pie by the quart for \$9
from 4:00 to 5:30 PM on
Saturday Oct 21st*

Upcoming events:

Soup Sales 1:00 – 3:00 PM every other week (Nov 11th(New),
Jan 6th, Jan 20th, Feb 3rd, Feb 17th, Mar 2th)

Oyster Dinner Tuesday, February 6th drive through from
4:00 -5:30 PM, followed by dine-in-meal beginning at
5:30 PM

Donut Day February 13th (a lighter recipe)

Fish Dinner on Saturday March 16th 4:00 – 5:30 PM

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Dear friends in Christ,

What do you know by heart? Is there a song that you learned as a child in school that could come right out of you without even thinking about it? Could you sing all of the words of a song that was always on the radio when you were in high school? How about a poem? Did you have to memorize one for a class in school, and it sticks with you to this day? How about presidents or state capitals? Many teachers used to drill their classes on those for tests and people can recite them to this day. You know them by heart. Or maybe there's a favorite recipe that you don't even have to think about anymore, you're putting it together and the ingredients just come off the shelves and you can just whip it up. Some folks know the birthday of everyone in their family or group of friends by heart. They are the ones that always remember to get those birthday cards out on time. Maybe you've got some phone numbers of people who are important to you down by heart. Maybe you worked really hard in third grade and you've got your multiplication tables down by heart. Everybody has a few things that they know by heart that have been useful to them throughout their lives.

The message of the Old Testament prophet Jeremiah is addressed to a people who are broken. They are in what we call Babylonian exile, in other words, the people of Babylon had attacked and captured the people of Judah and carted them off to live in their country as their servants. As they lived in this foreign land, the people of Judah began to become aware of why this terrible fate had befallen them. They were meant to be God's people, living out the covenant relationship that God had created with them when he first rescued them from slavery in Egypt. God rescued them and expected them to live well together, living out the laws, statutes, and ordinances that Moses had

given to them when he made that trip up Mount Sinai. They had not, however, kept the law of God. They had lived selfishly, not loving God with all their heart, soul, strength, and mind, and not loving their neighbors as they love themselves. Although God had sent prophets to them for over 400 years to warn them about their disobedience, the people did not listen. So the people of Babylon were allowed to take them away.

Jeremiah had been a prophet who had warned them that such a fate would fall upon them, but he was also a prophet of hope. His message was meant to help the people of Judah. The question that was on the hearts and minds of the people of Israel was this: If their sin in the past brought such fearful judgment upon the nation so that it came close to total annihilation, what assurance can there be that after they are restored to their homeland the same fate will not befall them again? The answer comes as the Lord gives prophecy to Jeremiah. "The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another to know the Lord, for they shall all know me, and I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more."

God is telling the people through the prophet Jeremiah, that there will come a time when keeping covenant with God will not just be about the preservation and rereading of laws written on scrolls and tablets. Rather, there will come a time when there will be an inner power and motivation towards obedience on the part of God's people that is written on their hearts. The people will live out God's ways because they know it by heart. God's Holy Spirit living in them will move the hearts of the people to love and obedience.

500 years later Jesus is speaking with Jews who have believed in him. Some of them have looked upon Jesus as the Messiah, the one who will renew God's relationship with his people. What they don't know is that Jesus is about to create the new covenant that they will know by heart. Jesus will make the covenant through his suffering, death, and resurrection. He says to them "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will

Project Linus "Blanket Fellowship"

We meet monthly for "Blanket Fellowship." Folks gather to knit, crochet, sew, and tie blankets; share their skills with others; and just enjoy time socializing. We meet on the second Sunday of each month from 2:00 – 4:00 PM in the Social Hall. "Blanket Fellowship" days will occur on the following dates: October 8 November 12 December 10 Bring a blanket project to work on or materials for a project if you would like some help getting started. There will be members who will help you. "Blanket Fellowship" is a come-as-you-are-able activity where we can have fun and get to know each other better as we help a great cause by making and donating blankets for children in need in our area. For questions, contact Ann Gardner.





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

Birthdays are listed

At Home

Barbara Kocher—6/1

Freda Keefer—10/13

Jeannette Calhoun (living with Son)—11/1

Elizabeth Sampsell—11/7

Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village - Lewisburg

William Wesner - 8/8

Nottingham Village - Northumberland

Joyce Osman - 2/27

Watsontown Rehab - Watsontown

Mike Benfer—8/21

Maxine Reimensnyder - 12/20

Military Pete Reasner—11/28

know the truth, and the truth will make you free." They get a little confused at this point, not fully understanding what Jesus meant by freedom. They were thinking in terms of political freedom, but Jesus was thinking in terms of freedom of the heart. So he tells them what the new covenant will bring, namely our rescue from sin. "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. So if the son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

Just as surely as God had rescued the people of Israel from slavery to the Pharaoh king of Egypt, Jesus would rescue them from sin, death, and the power of the devil. Jesus would make a new covenant in his shed blood with the people. This would be the truth that would become written on the people's hearts, that Jesus rescued them and remembered their sin no more. Jesus was bringing to them a new relationship, that would move their hearts to live God's ways, in love and obedience. This is the relationship, the covenant with God, that we renew every Sunday when we take the bread of life, and the cup of salvation, in the Holy Communion meal. We celebrate it weekly, so that we know it by heart.

The last Sunday of October we celebrate the Lutheran Reformation. The Augustinian monk, priest, and professor Martin Luther, looked around him at a church that thought it knew the truth, but it was mistaken. Luther was of the opinion that the church, God's own people, was again in Babylonian exile. The church of his day was not keeping rightly the new covenant that Jesus had established. Instead they had created a web of human legalism that trapped the people. The people were caught in the trap of not knowing what their destiny would be. Just like the people of Judah who had wondered if they could keep the law well enough to not be punished again, the people of Luther's church were caught in the trap of worrying if they were doing enough good works to satisfy God, so that God would not punish them with the flames of hell, but reward them with the bliss of heaven. This was decidedly not the covenant of freedom from sin that Jesus freely gave to his people through his own shed blood. The people did not know and understand Jesus words, "So if the son makes you free, you will be free indeed." They believed that their freedom depended upon their own futile attempts at good works and righteousness, rather than the righteousness that Jesus freely poured out upon all of his baptized people.

Praise be to God that the Holy Spirit gave a voice to Martin Luther just as surely as the Spirit moved Jeremiah to prophesy. The Holy Spirit came to Martin Luther, who was himself terrified of his own sin and death, and taught him the true gospel that was written in the holy Scriptures. Luther rediscovered the good news that Jesus brought to his

church. Simply put, because Jesus rescued us from sin and death by dying on the cross, we are covered over with the life and the righteousness of Jesus himself. Because of Jesus, the Holy Spirit moves our hearts to love and obedience. God wants us to know this powerful truth by heart.

Martin Luther knew from his own experience that the people would be best served by a church that gave people the Word of God faithfully. Martin Luther contributed to the life of the church of his day and age by translating the Bible from ancient languages that no one understood into common German so that many more people could read and understand. The people could read and memorize and come to know the gospel by heart. Luther also wrote what we call the Small Catechism. This was not a new idea in the church, but Luther put together a collection of the important truths of the church: the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and teaching about the sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion. To all of these he wrote simple explanations that the head of a household could use to teach their families the truth that would set them free. The story goes that when Martin Luther's son Hans was a small boy, his father asked him, "Now Hans, how much do you know?" "The whole catechism, Papa, because I know that by heart." "Is that so?" exclaimed Luther. "If you really know that much you are wiser than I. I still have to study it daily."

Why so much study of the words of the Scripture and the words of the Small Catechism? I like to point to the words Jesus said to his disciples on the night before his crucifixion. He told the disciples that he would be leaving them very soon. But he said that it would be to their advantage. Jesus told them, "the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I've said to you." But before the Holy Spirit can remind you of anything that Jesus said, you have to gladly hear and learn it. Attending worship to hear the Word, daily Bible reading, and recitation of the Ten Commandments, Apostles' Creed, and Lord's Prayer help us to absorb the Word of God that sets us free.

As you live and serve with the people of God, may you come to know God's Word by heart. May the Holy Spirit remind you of the teaching of Jesus Christ that you may live the new covenant of love and obedience. May you know by heart the truth that makes you free.

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

Drew Potts, Council President

Michael Yohn, Organist

Rev. Kenneth Elkin, Organist

Cathy J. Kelley, Secretary

Jennifer Woland, Preschool Teacher

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)

You Tube Channel: Zion Turbotville

Prayer Chain Anchors:

Call before 9:00 pm

Team 1 Barbara Zettlemyer 570-649-5358/570-850-3304

Team 2 Pat Sheatler 570-412-4672

Team 3 Viola Pfleegor 570-649-5281

Team 4 Mary Mertz 570-437-3075

Team 5 Glenda Yost 570-649-5751/570-490-5751



Current Fund - Daily Expenses

Balance brought forward (7/31/23)	13,022.10	17,683.09
	August	YTD
Monthly Contributions	18,546.23	169,021.16
Monthly Disbursements	21,964.42	175,954.34
Balance (8/31/23)	11,624.89	11,624.89

Building Fund—\$5,559.36

Nave Improvement—\$9,761.19

Current Loan Balance as of 8/2/23 was \$172,177.51

Our Mission Goal for August was \$18,590.00

Your contributions for August were \$18,546.23

Thank you for your giving.

Our Mission Goal for September is \$17,613.00

Your contributions as of September 18 are \$10,327.00

Our mortgage balance is \$171,361.28 as of 9/1/23.

Nave donations so far in September are \$840.00.

The original loan amount was \$260,344.84 when we began to make payments starting 1/5/22.

AUGUST ATTENDANCE

Saturday Evening Worship Service—40

8:00 am Worship Service—207

10:30 am Worship Service—212

Wednesday Prayer Service—42

Prayers for Personal Devotion at the Holy Communion

We offer these prayer for your use at the Holy Communion.

Perhaps you will pray them during the prelude to quietly prepare your heart for the whole worship experience. Maybe you will pray them while waiting to come to the table or after you have returned to your place. Try praying them and allow them to shape your reception of this great gift of forgiveness, life, and salvation received through the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ.

October 1st – Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jesus, so often I say one thing and do another. By the power of your Holy Spirit working in me, make my words and actions agree. Help me to hear your call to newness of life given away for the sake of others and not for my own self-interest. Amen.

October 8th – Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Father, during this time of reflection, help me examine my faith as I come before You. I will eat this bread and drink this cup as Jesus has commanded. Thank You because the price that Jesus paid allows me to participate in communion. Your love for me was expressed without question as You gave Your Son for me. Strengthen and cleanse me. Amen.

October 15th – Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Dear Father, Jesus made it clear that if we eat His flesh and drink His blood we can have the promised everlasting life. I believe and answer his invitation to the banquet by receiving His body and blood. Thank You for watching over me and preparing a place in Heaven when my time here on earth is complete. All I want to do is honor You here on earth. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

October 22nd – Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

Heavenly Father, there is no one like Your Son! He paid the price for me while I was yet a sinner. He was nailed to the Cross on my behalf and I am grateful. Forgive me for having fallen short. As I take this bread and drink this cup, I do so because of Jesus. I love and reverence You Lord. Amen.

October 29th – Reformation Sunday

Everlasting Father, Jesus came that I might have life through Him. In the scriptures, He showed us how to take the bread and the cup in remembrance of Him. I am following His instructions now and I take this time of reflection seriously. Thank You that through His sacrifice I have been set free indeed. In His Name, Amen.



Reformation Sunday, October 29th

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

A Prayer for Reformation Day

Gracious Father, we pray for your holy catholic church. Fill it with all truth and peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in need, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.



October 11 Newsletter

deadline is

October 11, 2023

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

We thank you for your offerings!

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.
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



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.



Confirmation Class Underway

The 2022-2023 Confirmation Class is studying the Bible with the “See through the Scriptures” curriculum this year. Confirmands include **Tavin Kocher, Autumn Zettelmoyer, Kaitlyn Miller, Abigail God, Tyler Walburn, Megan Stahlnecker, Julia Stahlnecker, Maggie Hamm, Clara Stoudt and Thomas Clemens.**



JOIN US FOR OUR TRUNK OR TREAT!

**Tuesday,
October 31**
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Zion Lutheran
Church

Youth Group will provide drinks and hospitality.
Feel free to dress in costume and decorate the trunk of your vehicle.
Zion was a popular spot for visitors on Halloween in the past.
Let's see if we can grow this fun community activity.

Join us for a Livestream of our 10:30 am
worship on our Facebook Page:
Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church (Turbotville PA)



The recorded 10:30 am worship service will be posted
on our Youtube channel: Zion Turbotville
immediately following the service.





IMPORTANT NOTICE

The main front entrance door to the parking lot uses an automatic opener. When one of the three handicapped buttons is pressed the door will remain open for 10 seconds. When the door is pulled or pushed open, the automatic assist will engage and open the door for 6 seconds, after which it will automatically close. Do not attempt to force the door closed once it has opened. You may damage the opener. Allow the door to close on its own. When locking up or exiting the door by the panic bar when the door is locked, please wait for the door to close and check that it has latched in the locked position. Thank you for your attention to caring for our new doors. They have been serving us well.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGAN



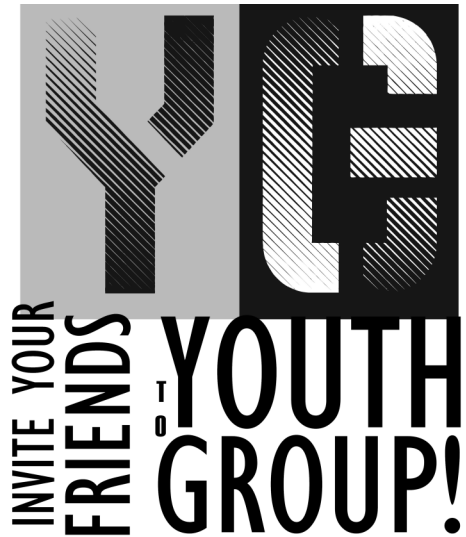
Sunday School begins at 9:15 a.m. We offer classes using the Sparkhouse curriculum. The following classes are available:

- Preschool—Natalie Hamilton
- Kindergarten to Grade 2—Megan Zettelmoeyer
- Grades 3 - 6—Amanda Stoudt
- Grade 7 - 12—Pastor Roux



All youth in Fifth through Twelfth grades are invited to a joint meeting on Sunday, October 8th from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Bring a friend and join us!
Details to be announced.



JOLLY BUNCH

Our next meeting will be on October 11, 2023. Our program will be led by Mr. Mark Giesen. The title of his presentation is "Tricks of the Trade". I am sure this will be both entertaining and informative. We will go to lunch at Good Will's in Montandon. Please join us for what will surely be a good time.

Also at our meeting we discussed and agreed to give memorial gifts in honor of both Irene Watson and Barbara Hartline. These will be in the manner of flowers for altar vases and as this year's calendar is full, this will be done next year.

Any questions, please call. HUGs to all. Marie Gardner

We meet the second Wednesday of the month.

Jolly Bunch members with Birthdays in October

Jean Harris—2nd
Lynne Anderson—4th
Nancy Rice—8th
Glenda Yost—12th

Disaster Relief Team

DON'T FORGET

There will be ONLY one bake only, October 19th (Business orders) & 20th (Individual orders). Price is \$4.00 per dumpling. Pick up your order forms on the table in the narthex and can be placed in the basket when returned.



ALL ORDERS ARE DUE BY SUNDAY OCTOBER 1



CHANGE of ADDRESS

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



Do you now have a cell phone number and no longer a land line? Please let the church office know of your new telephone number, for our records.

*Pastor Roux will be on Vacation
October 16th through October 22nd, 2023.
Authorized Lay Worship Leader Mark Giesen will serve as
our presider October 21st*



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.

Sweet Potato



Summer Office Hours

*Our church office will be
closed on Fridays,
through October 27th
except for the newsletter
Fridays.*

