

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

168th ANNIVERSARY



“Lord,
teach us to
pray...”

Luke 11:1



THE ZION NEWS

PUBLICATION OF
ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
TURBOTVILLE, PA

DECEMBER 2025



From the staff of Zion Church we wish all of our faithful members, our friends, our neighbors, our families a most joyous and blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Soup & Dinner Sales

39 Paradise Street Turbotville PA

Drive-through pickup from

12:30 – 2:00 pm each Saturday

All soups are \$8.00 per quart except Clam Chowder \$10.00 per quart

Jan 3 rd	Beef Vegetable / Ham & Bean
Jan 17 th	Stuffed Pepper / Broccoli Cheese / Turkey Noodle
Jan 31 st	Clam Chowder / Chicken & Wild Rice / Chili
Feb 3 rd	Oyster Dinner (Takeout 4-5:30 pm and dine in 6:00 pm)
Feb 14 th	Chicken Corn / Tuscan Zuppa
Feb 28 th	Loaded Potato / Pasta Fagioli
Mar 14 th	Fish Dinner (Takeout 4-5:30 pm)
May 2 nd	Roast Beef Dinner (Takeout 4-5:30 pm)



Pre-orders are accepted by

Email: zionsoupsales@gmail.com

OR Call: (570) 649-5195

Zion EV Lutheran Church office – Monday-Friday

*One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him,
“Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.”*

He said to them, “When you pray, say:

“Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come.

Give us each day our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us.

And lead us not into temptation.” (Luke 11:1-13)

Dear friends in Christ,

Do you ever make New Year's resolutions? I would like to suggest that you resolve to make this coming year, a year of prayer.

In the gospels, Jesus often prays. In fact, we are told that he spent whole nights in prayer. We don't know what he said in those prayers, but the disciples saw Jesus' dedicated prayer life, and they wanted to be like him, so they asked him to teach them how to pray. Jesus responded by giving them the prayer that we have come to call "The Lord's Prayer." It's a great pattern to follow for all of our prayers and not only that, but it is also a summary of the Christian faith.

Let's first pay attention to how Jesus starts the instruction to his disciples. He tells them, "When you pray, say this." It's not if you pray, but when you pray. There is an expectation that as a disciple of Jesus, you will pray.

The first word of the prayer is simply "Father" in Luke's Gospel, or "Our Father" in Matthew's. Either way, Jesus is inviting us to believe that God is truly our Father, and we are truly his children. That means we may approach him boldly and confidently in prayer.

The rest of the prayer includes five petitions, two of which relate to God and three of which relate to us.

The first, for God's name to be hallowed, means that we're praying for God's name to be thought of as holy. It's more of an acknowledgment than a request. We are worshiping God, we're saying that God is holy and that we know it.

The second petition is for God's kingdom to come. According to the Gospel of Mark, Jesus shared this message wherever he went: "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe the good news." The kingdom of God has come near, and in the Lord's Prayer, we are praying for that kingdom to be completed. What does that mean? We want the gospel to be preached in all the world, and people everywhere to put their faith and trust in Jesus Christ for salvation, and that God would set everything right in his time.

“Blanket Fellowship”

Project ♥ Linus



“Providing Security Through Blankets”

Our Project Linus group holds “Blanket Fellowship” sessions one Sunday afternoon each month to knit, crochet, sew, and tie blankets. Folks share their skills with others and just enjoy time socializing.

The sessions will continue in 2026 from 2:00 – 4:00 PM either in the narthex lounge or in the Social Hall (depending on the types of projects) on the dates listed below. “Blanket Fellowship” will meet the **third Sunday** of the month and are not scheduled during the summer and in December as these are very busy times for everyone.

January 18
February 15
March 15
April 19
May 17

June, July, August – no meeting
September 20
October 18
November 15
December – no meeting

Bring a blanket to work on, or if you would like some help getting started on a project, let us know. “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 more information, contact Ann Gardner.

The next three petitions in Luke’s version of this prayer have to do with us and our needs. The first of them says, “Give us each day our daily bread.” It’s an expression of confidence that God will provide. The ancient Israelites experienced this as they wandered through the wilderness for 40 years. In Exodus, we read about the manna God provided. It was literally “daily bread.” The people awoke each morning to a fresh blessing, bread from heaven. They were to gather just enough for that day. Anything that was left over the next morning would be spoiled. As God provided for our ancestors in faith, we can trust God to provide for us.

We’ve got a greater need, however, than just the food we eat. The next petition in the Lord’s Prayer asks God to forgive us our sins. We are still sinners. We didn’t stop sinning when we came out of the waters of baptism. This petition, then, acknowledges that we still have work to do to grow into the people God has called us to be. We are sinners in need of forgiveness, and we live in a world of other sinners who need forgiveness too.

The next phrase may give us pause. It says, “For we also forgive everyone who sins against us.” It’s not saying, “We try to forgive” or “We’d like to forgive.” It says that just as God forgives us, we also forgive others. It’s an expectation, like Jesus saying, “When you pray ...” instead of “If you pray” Forgiveness is an expectation. Disciples of Jesus are going to forgive others.

The last petition of the prayer, “Do not bring us to the time of trial,” might be confusing. After all, as Martin Luther wrote in his explanation to the Lord’s Prayer in the Small Catechism, “It is true that God tempts no one.” But we’re asking God to help us avoid temptation and trials in our lives, and to help us persevere in faith when those times do come. Jesus overcame temptation, and with his power, we can too.

Do you see how this prayer covers every facet of our lives? It is a bold prayer, because we are addressing God as our Father. When we say it, we are presuming a special relationship to God, a relationship made possible only through Jesus. In order to grow in our relationship with God, the communication of prayer is crucial.

Only prayer makes a close relationship with God possible. A dedicated prayer life focused on making God’s name holy, asking God to provide for our needs and remembering that we are sinners but are forgiven by God’s grace keeps us rooted in what is truly important. It helps us to keep the rest of our lives in perspective.





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

Elizabeth Sampsell—11/7

Milton Rehab—Milton

Jeannette Calhoun - 11/1

Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village - Lewisburg

William Wesner - 8/8

Watsontown Rehab - Watsontown

Maxine Reimensnyder - 12/20

Presbyterian Home - Williamsport

Karl Fausnaught - 9/23

Military *Pete Reasner—11/28*

So, what is your prayer life like? Are you rooted in prayer so you can grow into the fullness of life? Or do you send up the occasional prayer for help when something goes wrong, but otherwise do not spend much time at all in prayer?

If you feel like your prayer life is lacking, you can begin again every day. And Jesus has provided the perfect prayer to guide us. In the Lord's Prayer, we praise God as holy, pray for God's will to be done and express our trust in God for daily provision and forgiveness of sins. Make prayer your New Year's resolution.

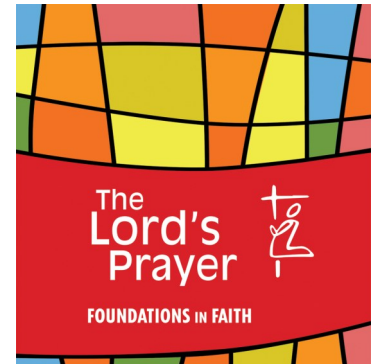
Yours in Christ, Pastor Roux

Bible Study Coming Soon

“Foundations in Faith: The Lord's Prayer”

Join Pastor Roux for six-session study of the Lord's Prayer beginning Tuesday, January 6th at 10:30 am.

God commands and invites His people to pray. For believers, prayer is a heart-to-heart conversation with the heavenly Father, who shows His love in the life, death, and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ. It's a simple truth: God wants His people to pray. He promises to hear and answer our prayers. For many people, though, prayer is not simple. They ask, “What should I pray? How should I pray?” We'll seek answers to these questions as we study God's Word and Luther's Small Catechism. Our goal is to value prayer as something great and precious.



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

Lori Dyer, Council President

Michael Yohn, Organist

Rev. Kenneth Elkin, Organist

Tammy George, 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](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)



*Oh, Come, Let
Us Adore Him*

CHRISTMAS EVE

**Candlelight Worship
December 24, 2025
7:00 pm & 11:00 pm**



View the Zion News Online

Our monthly newsletter is available online as soon as it goes to press. If you aren't getting your copy through the mail in a timely manner, we encourage you to go to our website: zionturbotville.com, scroll to the bottom of the page to Recent Newsletters. This can be especially helpful to check the calendar and worship assistant schedules.



Current Fund - Daily Expenses

Balance brought forward (10/31/25) 13,779.06 4,704.44

	November	YTD
Monthly Contributions	23,090.37	249,314.08
Monthly Disbursements	28,831.96	252,344.87
Balance (11/30/25)	7,740.57	7,740.57

Building Fund—\$10,358.44

Nave Improvement—\$13,132.47

Current Loan Balance as of 11/1/25 was \$43,510.14

Our Mission Goal for November was \$25,011.00

Your contributions for November were \$23,090.37

Nave donations for November were \$2,545.00

Thank you for your giving.

Our Mission Goal for December is \$27,140.00

Your contributions as of December 12th are \$14,184.77

Nave donations as of December 12th are \$1,515.00

Our mortgage balance is \$39,373.61 as of 12/13/25

The original loan amount was \$260,344.84

when we began to make payments starting 1/5/22

NOVEMBER ATTENDANCE

Saturday Evening Worship Service—55

8:00 am Worship Service—241

10:30 am Worship Service—238

Wednesday Prayer Service —34

Thanksgiving Eve—9:00 am 19

Thanksgiving Eve—7:00 pm 16

EPIPHANY WORSHIP

The Epiphany of Our Lord, will be celebrated on Saturday, January 3rd at 6:00 pm and Sunday, January 4th at 8:00 am and 10:30 pm. Epiphany is one of the principal festival days of the church. The Gospel lesson for Epiphany is St. Matthew 2:1-12, which tells the story of the visit of the three wise men to the infant Jesus. They are representatives of the nations who came to worship him.

seek him



ANNUAL REPORT

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 2026 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 a box set of envelopes and want them, please contact the church office.

Please do not use the 2026 envelopes until January 1, 2026 the envelope number may vary from year to year.

The last date for 2025 offerings will be Sunday, December 28th. Please have all contributions to the church office by that time in order for credit to be received on your contribution statement for 2025. Contributions received after the 28th will be posted to the 2026 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 2025



January Newsletter
deadline is
January 7, 2026

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



Facebook Livestream Attendants Needed - If you are interested in helping with the weekly worship live stream. Please use the signup sheet posted on the bulletin board outside of the office. Training and documented how-to's will be provided and you will be shadowed by either John Yogodzinski or Macoy Auman. The live stream does not have to occur during 10:30 worship so if you would like to stream 8:00 am or the Saturday 6:00 pm service, please indicate the desired time on the signup sheet. Contact John Yogodzinski at (570)417-6737 or john@thegraphichive.com. If you have any questions.



- Jan 7
- Feb 11
- Mar 11
- Apr 8
- May 13
- June 10
- July 8
- Aug 12
- Sept 9
- Oct 7
- Nov 11
- Dec 9

Thank you to the Good People of Zion,
When I was hired 31 1/2 years ago I told Lynn Watson, who was Staff Support Chairman at the time, that I wanted to retire here at Zion. Well, that has come true. I read somewhere "The difference between a Workplace and a Nice Place to work is the GOOD PEOPLE who make it so."

Thank you for being the "GOOD PEOPLE".

Cathy J. Kelley

The family of John M Pfleegor is thankful for the many cards and prayers received during his passing into the arms of his heavenly Father. We were blessed with many acts of kindness and love when it was especially needed. Thank you friends of Zion , you are a treasure.

Viola Pfleegor



Thank you

We thank you for your offerings!

Make 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 "Donate online to support Zion Evangelical"

Scroll down on the "Support Zion Evangelical" web page until you see the "Dontate" button under "General Operating" or "Nave Improvement"

Click on "Donate" under the fund you wish to contribute to. **Click** "Recurring" and follow prompts. You can select to automatically contribute every week, every two weeks, or monthly.

You can also set up a recurring donation using the "Simply Giving Program."

Go to the Zion website, www.zionturbotville.com.

Click on the yellow button "Donate online to support Zion Evangelical"

Scroll to the bottom of the "Support Zion Evangelical" web page

Print the "Simply Giving Authorization Form," complete it, and submit it to the church office.

You can make a one-time donation to support our ministry.

- By dropping off your offering at the church
Monday—Friday 8:30 am—4:30 pm
- Through the mobile phone app: GivePlus

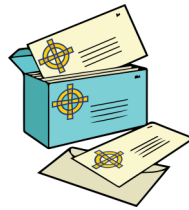
Via the Zion website, www.zionturbotville.com.

Click on the yellow button "Donate online to support Zion Evangelical"

Scroll down until you see the "Dontate" button under "General Operating" or "Nave Improvement"

Click on "Donate" under the option you wish to donate to.

Click "One-time" and follow prompts.



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.



Thank
you

THANK YOU FOR THE WARM WELCOME

The kindness shown from everyone as I am learning not only a new job, but also names and faces of the Zion congregation. Thank you again for making me feel so welcomed.

Tammy George

THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROUS GIVING

For many years, the Youth Group of Zion has shopped for local children at Christmas. Warrior Run Elementary school knows the families in our area with the greatest needs and provides area organizations with wish lists for them. Our youth group receives index cards listing a child's age along with clothing and shoe sizes. This year we received cards for ten children. The congregation gave generously to the Christmas shopping project this year. We want to say a big thank you for your help year after year with this project. We hope that all of the children we shopped for had a good Christmas from what we were able to give them.

Sincerely, *Zion's Youth Group*





PASTOR AND YOUTH TRAVELLING

Pastor Roux will be taking five students from the Confirmation Class to the Youth Quake Event in Pittsburgh on the weekend of January 23-25. The Quake includes worship, speakers, musicians, and small group gatherings for youth in grades 6-12. Authorized Lay Worship Leader Gordon Lee will be presiding at worship for us at Zion that weekend.

If any other youth in 6th - 12th grade would like to attend the Quake please speak with Pastor Roux.



We need your help to maintain our church records and to keep in touch with you.

1. 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
2. Do you now have a cell phone number and no longer a land line? Please let the church know of your new telephone number.



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.



Affirmation & Response

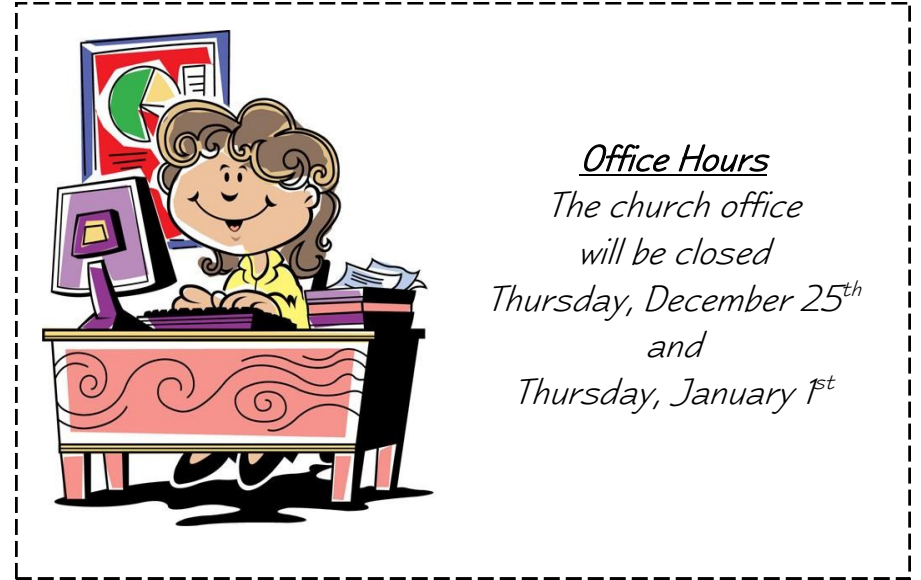
The “Affirmation and Response Forms” and “Thank Offering Cards” for 2026 were mailed out a few weeks ago. Use them to indicate your intention to serve in one of the many ministries we undertake at Zion. We worship God and serve as witnesses to his love in our community, we support service ministries, we grow in knowledge through learning, and we enjoy one another in fellowship. We will continue to accept your Affirmation and Response Forms and Thank Offering Cards in the weeks to come.



MONETARY BREAKDOWN FROM THE AFFIRMATION & RESPONSE CARDS FOR 2026

General Fund	\$78,905.00
Building Fund	\$3,160.00
Nave Improvement	\$12,875.00
Total Pledges as of 12/13/25	\$94,940.00
Affirmation & Response submitted—22	
Monetary Commitment—22 (6 are electronic fund transfers)	

Holiday Schedule



Office Hours
 The church office
 will be closed
 Thursday, December 25th
 and
 Thursday, January 1st



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School begins at 9:15 a.m. We offer classes for ages Pre K—6th using the Sparkhouse curriculum. The teachers are Natalie Hamilton, Megan Zettelmoeyer and Mandy Stoudt.

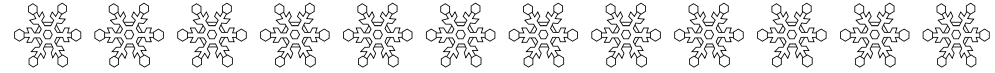
JOLLY BUNCH

WARRIOR RUN NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

JANUARY

It's here- one of our coldest months of the year! What delicious food always warms us all the way from head to toe? Why, it's soup of course. Any kind of soup is welcome on a cold wintery day. So, this month let's stock our neighbor's shelves with soup. Bring large cans, small cans, any variety. Some cans serve only one, some two, for some we must add water, some are creamed, some chunky. Bring them all. It's going to get cold outside, let's warm our friends with soup.

Donations may be dropped off at the church narthex.



We needed to cancel our December meeting and meal with the coming snow storm. Although it didn't snow as early as forecast, it was a good call as it started to snow near the time we would have started to eat and we, and I especially, would have been concerned about our drive home. We will have our Station House meal in April.

As always there will not be a meeting in January, but will resume in February. I wish each of you a healthy and happy New Year. See you for Jolly Bunch in February. Hugs to all. Marie Gardner

Jolly Bunch members with Birthdays in January

Ross McCollum—1st

Richard Eck—2nd

Valerie Barnwell—7th

Shirley McCollum—17th

Kay McCarty—17th

Marcia Sterner—17th

Marie Gardner—26th

