



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
100 West Main Street
Hummelstown, PA 17036
717-566-2589
website:
www.zluthummelstown.com

Zion Messenger

February 2025

Pastor's Ponderings

What a year it has already been. We have been inundated with flu and covid 19 again, which is no surprise since we are in the middle of winter. The church boiler was acting up and the weather has not been cooperating with worship services. But this is the life of the congregation – we live to expect the unexpected. This is a theme that has permeated our experiences and our stories for thousands of years.

Recently I have read Homer's book *"The Odyssey"* and I am currently about 1/3 of the way through Dante's *Divine Comedy*. Now don't get too caught up in my reading choices, I have been slowly trying to read as many of the classics as possible, since I came to the enjoyment of reading later in my life. In fact, it took attending seminary to really turn me on to reading. Anyway, in the book *"The Odyssey"*, the hero Ulysses, also known as Odysseus, comes home after a long journey where he nearly died many times. He comes home to defend his home, his wife, his son and his property from the suitors of his town who believed he was dead and wanted to marry his wife Penelope. In the end the Roman goddess Minerva stops Ulysses from killing all of the men in their city – and a covenant of peace is secured. But that is not the end of Ulysses. He crops up in the book *"The Divine Comedy"* in which Dante presents a further chapter in the life of Ulysses. Dante learns from Ulysses himself, who is in the depths of hell (which of course is surprising), that he continued his life of journey, leaving behind his family because he could not stop living the life of adventure. In the end his boat is swamped by a great whirlwind and he and his small crew are drowned outside the Pillars of Hercules. It is an unexpected end to this hero of the Trojan War. But again, I have come to live my life expecting the unexpected.

Which brings me back to our congregations, St. Paul and Zion. I want to take some time to update you on the merger so that you do not feel as if you are blindsided by the unexpected over the next three months. This journey we embarked upon about

eighteen months ago, the merger for St. Paul and Zion, continues as well. A congregation from Hershey who currently rents space for their worship has expressed interest in

purchasing the St. Paul property. In fact, on January 12, 2025 the congregation voted unanimously to move forward with the purchase. And this week the two congregations signed a letter of intent for the purchase of the property. The Letter of Intent, signed on Tuesday January 21, 2025, provides time for the purchaser to have a due diligence period of 30 days which begins at the mutual signing of the Letter of Intent. During the due diligence period each congregation will have time to discern the purchase and to do all tests and/or inspections deemed necessary to complete the purchase. Also, during this "due diligence" period the congregation of St. Paul will be reviewing a list of contents of each building to determine what they want to keep and how to dispose of the content(s) they are not interested in keeping. There will be information forthcoming on this activity in the future. As a part of the sale of the property and the decisions about the contents of the buildings, St. Paul and Zion congregations will be putting together "Articles of Merger" that need to be voted on by each congregation and sent to the PA Attorney General's Office.

As is true on any journey, there have been joys and sorrows, mountains and valleys. Determining to sell their property and merge with Zion has not been an easy process for St. Paul's congregation. Of course, the trajectory that has led them to this moment has been a journey in and of itself. But what has made this journey that much easier has been the way you, the congregation of Zion has welcomed our brothers and sisters from St. Paul. You are a blessing. Every member of St. Paul and Zion are in fact a blessing.

Continued on page 3.

Worship

WORSHIP SERVICES IN FEBRUARY

February 2, 2025

Epiphany 4

February 9, 2025

Epiphany 5

February 16, 2025

Epiphany 6

February 23, 2025

Epiphany 7

Worship With Us

9:30 AM

Website:

www.zluthhummelstown.com

Facebook:

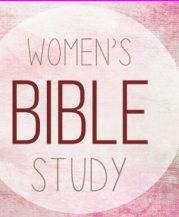
www.facebook.com/zluth

YouTube live-streamed:

Search "Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church Hummelstown," then subscribe.

Midweek COMMUNION SERVICE

Join Pastor Schreffler every Wednesday from 12:00 – 12:30 pm for a short-spoken word communion service in the Nave.



WONDERFUL WOMEN OF GOD

Join us every Wednesday at 10:30 am in the Demey Library as we look at current events through the lens of scripture.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

ZION'S PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



Zion's Prayer Shawl ministry will meet in the parlor the 2nd Thursday & 4th Tuesday of the month at 10:30 am. Just come with your knitting needles or crochet hooks, yarn, and share your talents. Patterns will be provided if you need ideas or would like to try something new (or revisit an old favorite). If you have any questions, call Jean Ripple at (717) 566-7120, mobile (717)599-1323, jhripple@comcast.net.

MINI PRAYER SHAWLS MINISTRY



The knitting groups of St. Paul and Zion have begun a collaboration ministry called the Mini Prayer Shawls. These mini, 4"x4" pocket size shawls are designed for people to carry with them or simply be placed where they can be touched. These small tokens

are a reminder of how much others care about them as well as a reminder than God is always in their lives. Please take one for yourself and one for a friend who may be facing challenges. These can be found in a basket in the Narthex. This is a small but significant way for each of us to do outreach

THE CARING GROUP



The Caring Group invites anyone interested in knitting, crocheting, or looming hats and mittens to join them in the Parlor on Wednesdays at 1:00pm. If you want to learn to knit or loom, please join us and we will provide lessons. For questions, contact Jane Landis, jam3995@verizon.net.

Pastor's Pondering

Continued from front page.

But the journey is not over yet. The council from St. Paul and several members of Zion's council continue to meet with Pastor Richard Jorgensen, Director of Evangelical Mission from the Synod who has been assisting us with this merger. The next meeting will be held on Monday February 3. Pastor Jorgensen will be helping us put the Articles of Merger together to be reviewed by legal counsel and the Attorney General's Office as well.

As we continue in our personal and collective journeys, I ask that you continue to pray – pray for the members of St. Paul. Pray for the members and the ministries of Zion. We are all one in Christ. As such, it will be with prayer and the presence of the Holy Spirit that we continue forward to ventures of which we know, and ventures we could never dream of, but knowing that G-d is good all the time.

Blessings,
Pastor Dave

Contacting Pastor Dave
Cell phone: 717-802-2749
Email: schreffler88@gmail.com

Christian Ed

CHILDREN SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS



We continue to enjoy 5 minutes of music with Dan Stokes prior to going upstairs for Sunday School. Bonnie Rudi and Shannon Bastian continue to meet with youth weekly and engage youth in the gospel message each week through books, crafts and activities. We are pleased to extend this offering to any youth in attendance each Sunday.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS - 11AM IN THE DEMEY LIBRARY



The Adult Sunday School Class will be spending the Sundays before Lent reviewing the Study Helps in the Lutheran Study Bible. (How Luther Read the Bible, Law and Gospel in the Bible, Is the Bible really the Word of God, and many more.) Pastor Dave will lead one of the sessions on Lutheran Insights in the Bible. We have lots of copies of the Lutheran Study Bible, including large print ones. Join us in the library with your drink and your snack.

Zion Lutheran Preschool

COMMUNITY AID DONATION BIN



We received a Community Aid bin, located in the Narthex. Please help us keep our Bin program successful by adhering to the following guidelines: Please only place the following items in good condition in the Bin: clothing, hats, scarves, accessories and shoes. Household and other goods should be dropped off at a store Donation Center. This is to prevent the items from breaking as well as to avoid overcrowding in the Bins.

We have also been approved as a virtual partner with Community Aid. If you take your donations to the Harrisburg store, we will receive \$0.13 per pound. Please provide #50267 at drop off so we can receive the credit.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

If you have Thrivent Choice Dollars to spend and are looking for a meaningful way to use those dollars, please consider using your money for Zion's Preschool. Shannon Bastian is willing to help you with ideas. She'll also help to write and submit your grant. Thank you for considering.

Outreach Ministries

GLOVE, HAT & SCARF DRIVE



The hat, glove & scarf drive has begun. Please look for sales, make your purchases and bring in your donations, adding them to the “glove tree” in the Narthex. This drive continues through the end of February. So far, We currently have **131** hats, **78** pairs of gloves and **64** scarves. Thank you! Let’s help keep others warm this winter.

HUMMELSTOWN FOOD PANTRY NEEDS



The following items are needed to stock the shelves: Spam, jars of spaghetti sauce, canned fruit, ground coffee, instant flavored oatmeal, peanut butter, jelly, canned vegetables, canned soups and clean plastic grocery bags. Thank you for your continued support and donations. Your food donations are greatly appreciated.

MEDICAL OUTREACH SERVICE WISH LIST FOR CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH



The health clinic at Christ Lutheran Church needs the following items: +2.5 strength reading glasses, Emergen- C/ Airborne/Zin, bottled water, Vaseline, lotion, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, body wash, muscle rub, and antihistamine (Benadryl, Claritin, Zyrtec, Chlor tabs). Please place your donations in the Christ Cares closet or drop off at the church office.

THE GRATEFUL LADIES OF ZION

Dress up and join us for a belated Christmas dinner at Gilligan’s (10 N Houcks Road, Harrisburg) on Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at 6:00 pm. RSVP to 717-580-0571.

BLOOD DRIVE



Social Ministry asks that you please donate blood in Zion’s name at the Central PA Blood Bank donor center “The Blue Barn” on 475 W Governor Road Suite 4 Hershey, PA 17033. When donating please provide our donation number 129. Contact them at 717-298-6256, they are open Monday-Friday 7:30 am -5:30 pm and Sundays from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm.



**The Grateful Ladies of Zion
Bunco Game Night**



Singing with Dan Stokes

Council News

ZION LUTHERAN CONGREGATION COUNCIL MINUTES

The Congregation Council met on January 16, 2025. The meeting was called to order by Council President James Kelly at 6:36 p.m. Jayanna Yeakle provided devotions based on the theme of new beginnings for a New Year. The Lord's compassions never fail; they are new every morning. "Throw your heart over the bar, and your body will follow." (Ref: Lamentations 3:22-23; Psalm 108; Norman Vincent Peale)

Council approved the agenda and also approved the meeting minutes of December 2024 with amendments. Pat Meister provided a written and oral financial report. Highlights include: the giving for December was slightly lower than budget. Overall, the congregation ended the year with a deficit of \$26,000. Council approved moving \$25,000 from Memorial Fund to offset the deficit. Council also approved paying the benevolence or "Ministry to Others" for the 2024 year. Pastor Schreffler reviewed his written report. He is still working with the council from St. Paul on the merger with Zion and a letter of intent should be signed soon between Hershey PCA (who is looking to purchase the St. Paul property) and the St. Paul Council. The Director of Youth and Family Ministries provided a written report.

Written or verbal reports were provided by the following committees: Kitchen Committee, Property Committee, and the Social Ministry Committee. The Council has assembled a list of the top 5 priorities as determined by all council members. This discussion will continue as they identify issues that should be addressed in 2025.

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm. Pastor Schreffler ended the meeting with prayer.

WITH APPRECIATION



CHRIST LUTHERAN HEALTH MINISTRIES

January 16, 2025

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
100 W. Main St.
Hummelstown, PA 17036

Dear Siblings in Christ,

Thank you for the recent donation of a variety of medical and hygiene supplies received on November 20, 2024 in support of the health ministries here at Christ Lutheran. Your support and partnership in this healing work makes it possible to help so many people.

We are grateful for all the supplies that were donated:

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| - Bath towels | - Sewing kits |
| - Wash cloths | - Conditioner |
| - Shampoo | - Lotion |
| - Sunscreen | - Soap |
| - Feminine products | - Tissues |
| - A sling | - Toothpaste |
| - Toothbrushes | - Socks |

Because of your support and so many others like you, healing is able to be provided through the clinics at Christ Lutheran Church. Each year thousands of people walk through the doors of the church looking for healing from a variety of ailments. We are blessed to be able to offer care and concern, healing and hope to so many.

Thank you for your support!

Grace and Peace,

Rev. Matthew Best
Pastor/Executive Director, Health Ministries

Rev. Matthew Best, Pastor
124 South 13th Street, Harrisburg, PA 17104 // 717-236-8382
admin@christharrisburg.org// www.christharrisburg.org

MUSIC MINISTRY



Mark your calendars and invite friends as Zion's Music on Main series continues Friday, May 9, 2025, at 7:00 pm with our handbells and choir joined by gifted soloists and instrumentalists for an evening of inspiration. This series began as the Brass Quartet delighted crowds attending the Hummelstown Arts Festival last September followed by a Christmas celebration December 8, 2024, as our Sanctuary was filled with guests joining in beloved carols.

This final concert will be part of the Hummelstown Business Association's 2nd Fridays.



Let's join together to celebrate these 80+ milestone birthdays. Thank you for helping to make these birthdays special.

Please send your greeting cards to:

Edwin Zimmerman
Celebrates 90 years
February 3, 2025

Mr. Edward Zimmerman
3651 South Crete Drive
Punta Gorda, FL 33950

Shirley Davis

Celebrates 80 years
February 7, 2025

Mrs. Shirley Davis
8960 Bridge Road
Hummelstown, PA 17036

Ella Friedel

Celebrates 100 years!
February 9, 2025

Mrs. Ella Friedel
25 Runyon Road
Hummelstown, PA 17036
(Please only send cards)

Patricia Speraw

Celebrates 81 years
February 13, 2025

Mrs. Patricia Speraw
41 Bromley Court
Hershey, PA 17033

Betty Kautz

Celebrates 85 years
February 14, 2025

Mrs. Betty Kautz
400 Prospect Street
Hummelstown, PA 17036



Zion Youth Group

FEBRUARY 2025

- Saturday, February 8, 2025- Dinner church 5:00 - 6:30 pm.
- Sunday, February 16, 2025- Youth Group 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Shayne Yonchiuk,
Director of Youth Ministry
zyghtown@gmail.com

Please fill out a form in the Narthex with payment, or send your attendance information by email and you can pay at dinner! zyghtown@gmail.com



ZYG Dinner Church!

Saturday, February 8th |
5:00 PM - 6:30 PM


\$10

Served by the youth!

Spaghetti, salad,
and several
desserts!



February Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Church Office Closed
2 Epiphany 4 9:00am Coffee Fellowship 9:30am In Person & Live Streamed Worship w/Holy Communion 11:00am Adult Sunday School 7:30pm AA	3 6:30pm Worship & Music Committee 7:30pm AA	4 6:00pm Property 6:30pm Christian Ed 7:30pm AA	5 9:00am Food Pantry 10:30am Wonderful Women of God 12:00pm Midweek Communion Service 1:00pm St. Paul's Lutheran Caring Group 6:30pm Bells' Angels 6:00pm Evangelism 7:30pm Chancel Choir	6	7 Church Office Closed	8 Church Office Closed 9:00am Men's Breakfast 5:00pm ZYG Dinner Church
9 Epiphany 5 9:00am Coffee Fellowship 9:30am In Person & Live Streamed Worship w/Holy Communion 11:00am Adult Sunday School 7:30pm AA	10 Church Office Hours 8:00 am-12:00 pm 6:30pm Youth Advisory 7:30pm AA	11 6:30pm Stewardship 7:30pm AA 7:30pm Preschool Board via Zoom	12 9:00am Food Pantry 10:30am Wonderful Women of God 12:00pm Midweek Communion Service 1:00pm St. Paul's Lutheran Caring Group 6:30pm Bells' Angels 7:30pm Chancel Choir	13 10:00am ATCC 10:30am Prayer Shawl Ministry	14 Church Office Closed 	15 Church Office Closed
16 Epiphany 6 9:00am Coffee Fellowship 9:30am In Person & Live Streamed Worship w/Holy Communion 11:00am Adult Sunday School 5:00pm ZYG Meeting 7:30pm AA	17 7:30pm AA	18 6:00pm Grateful Ladies of Zion 7:30pm AA	19 9:00am Food Pantry 10:30am Wonderful Women of God 12:00pm Midweek Communion Service 1:00pm St. Paul's Lutheran Caring Group 6:30pm Bells' Angels 7:30pm Chancel Choir	20 6:30pm Congregation Council	21 Church Office Closed	22 Church Office Closed
23 Epiphany 7 9:00am Coffee Fellowship 9:30am In Person & Live Streamed Worship w/Holy Communion 11:00am Adult Sunday School 7:30pm AA	24 7:30pm AA	25 10:30am Prayer Shawl Ministry 7:30pm AA	26 9:00am Food Pantry 10:30am Wonderful Women of God 12:00pm Midweek Communion Service 1:00pm St. Paul's Lutheran Caring Group 6:30pm Bells' Angels 7:30pm Chancel Choir	27	28 Church Office Closed	



Before the 9:30 am worship service hosted in February by:
Stewardship Committee

Evangelism

MEN'S BREAKFAST



All men of the church are invited for a time of fellowship on Saturday, February 8, 2025 at 9:00 am in Leatherman Hall. Come enjoy a good breakfast and great conversation. Sign up in the narthex.

Zion Messenger

Worship Services of Holy Communion

9:30 am

Live Stream & In Person

Sunday School for children during worship.

Adult Sunday School 11:00 am

The Rev. David J. Schreffler, Pastor

Church Office: (717) 566-2589

Office Hours

Monday – Thursday 8:00 am – 2:30 pm

Website: www.zluthhummelstown.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/zluth/

YouTube: Search "Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church-Hummelstown," then subscribe.

March 2025

Newsletter

Deadline is:

Monday

February 24, 2025



100 W. Main Street

Hummelstown, PA 17036

February 2025



If you would like to receive the newsletter by email, please call the church office at (717)566-2589.