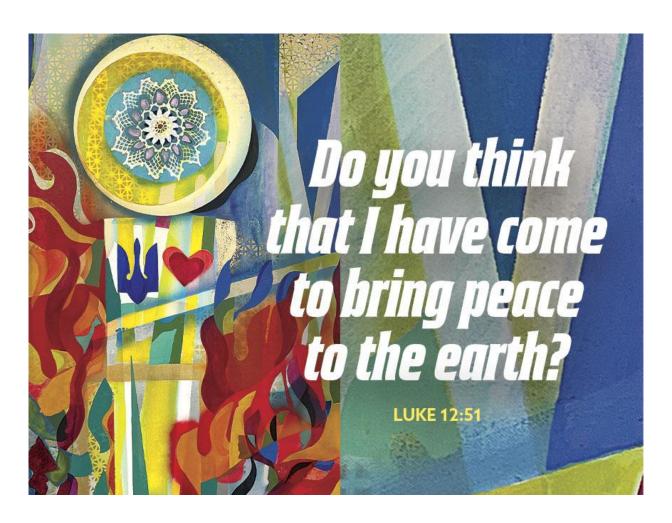
# Welcome!



# Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

101 N. Greenwood Street, Tamaqua, PA 18252 (570) 668-2180 - Email: <a href="mailto:zionlcof@verizon.net">zionlcof@verizon.net</a>

Our Mission: Empowered and Inspired by God to bring others to Christ.

## The 10th Sunday after Pentecost

August 17, 2025 ~ 9:00 am

## The Liturgy of Word and Sacrament

The word of God is a refining fire. Jesus is the great divide in human history. He invites our undivided attention and devotion. Today in worship we are surrounded by a great "cloud of witnesses." In the word and in holy communion we are invited yet again to look to Jesus, "the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

\*Congregation please stand

#### The Pre-service Music

# ~ The Gathering ~

### \* The Confession and Forgiveness

IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, AND OF THE + SON, AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. Amen.

BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST, LET US CONFESS OUR SIN.

Please kneel if able.

#### MERCIFUL GOD,

you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

YOU BELONG TO CHRIST JESUS AND YOU ARE GOD'S CHILDREN THROUGH FAITH. IN THE CROSS OF + CHRIST, AND THROUGH THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN. CLOTHED WITH CHRIST, YOU ARE A NEW CREATION.

#### Amen.

## \* The Gathering Hymn "Open Your Ears, O Faithful People" WOV No. 715 Open your ears, O faithful people, Open your ears and hear God's Word Open your hearts, O royal priesthood, God has come to you.

(Refrain) God has spoken to the people, hallelujah!
God has spoken words of wisdom, hallelujah!
God has spoken to the people, hallelujah!
God has spoken words of wisdom, hallelujah!

They who have ears to hear the message, They who have ears, now let them hear; They who would learn the way of wisdom, Let them hear God's Word. (Refrain)

Israel comes to greet the Savior, Judah is glad to see his day, From east and west the peoples travel, God will show the way. (Refrain)

## \* The Greeting

THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THE LOVE OF GOD. AND THE COMMUNION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT BE WITH YOU ALL.

And also with you.

#### \* The Kyrie (ELW No. 175)

Lord, have mercy on us; O Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy on us; O Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy on us; O Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy on us; O Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy on us; O Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy on us; O Lord, have mercy.

#### \* The Hymn of Praise "Gloria" (ELW Pg. 176)

Gloria, gloria, gloria, glory to God on high! Gloria, gloria, gloria, glory to God on high! And on earth peace to God's people. Glory to God. And on earth peace to God's people. Glory to God!

## \* The Prayer of the Day

THE LORD BE WITH YOU
(Spoken) And also with you.
LET US PRAY:

O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Special Music – Sophia & Madelyn Shirvinski

#### ~The Word~

#### The First Lesson Jeremiah 23:23-29

Because Jeremiah preaches the unpopular message of God's judgment, he suffers rejection. Today's reading distinguishes between the true prophet, like Jeremiah, who speaks God's word, and the false prophet who misleads the people through dreams. One is like wheat; the other like worthless straw.

(After the reading)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

Thanks be to God.

#### The Psalm 82 Tune "All People That on Earth Do Dwell" No.245

GOD TAKES HIS STAND IN THE COUNCIL OF HEAVEN; IN THE MIDST OF THE GODS HE GIVES JUDGMENT.

Arise, O God, and rule the world. Let evil from its throne be hurled.

"HOW LONG WILL YOU JUDGE UNJUSTLY, AND SHOW FAVOR TO THE WICKED? SAVE THE WEAK AND THE ORPHAN; DEFEND THE HUMBLE AND NEEDY; RESCUE THE WEAK AND THE NEEDY; DELIVER THEM FROM THE POWER OF THE WICKED."

Arise, O God; your pow'r make known, And take the nations for your own.

THEY DO NOT KNOW, NEITHER DO THEY UNDERSTAND; THEY GO ABOUT IN DARKNESS; ALL THE NATIONS OF THE EARTH ARE SHAKEN.

Arise, O God, and rule the world. Let evil from its throne be hurled.

"NOW I SAY TO YOU, 'YOU ARE GODS, CHILDREN OF THE MOST HIGH, ALL OF YOU.

NEVERTHELESS, YOU SHALL DIE LIKE MORTALS, AND FALL LIKE ANY PRINCE."

Arise, O God; your pow'r make known, And take the nations for your own.

#### The Second Lesson Hebrews 11:29-12:2

The author of Hebrews presents us with rich stories of faith. In a long list of biblical heroes, we find examples of trust in God that enabled them to face the trials of life faithfully. In addition to this "cloud of witnesses," we have Jesus, the perfect model of faithful endurance.

(After the reading)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

Thanks be to God.

#### \* The Gospel Acclamation (ELW Pg. 179)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia!

#### \* The Holy Gospel St. Luke 12:49-56

Jesus delivers harsh words about the purifying and potentially divisive effects of obedience to God's call. The way of the cross often leads followers to encounter hostility and rejection, even from those they love.

(Before the Gospel)

## THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT LUKE THE 12<sup>TH</sup> CHAPTER:

(Spoken) Glory to you, O Lord.

(After the Gospel)

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

(Spoken) Praise to you, O Christ.

#### The Sermon

Pastor Cindy White

#### \*The Hymn of the Day

"Our Father, We Have Wandered"

**WOV No. 733** 

Our Father, we have wandered and hidden from your face; In foolishness have squandered your legacy of grace. But now, in exile dwelling, we rise with fear and shame, As, distant but compelling, we hear you call our name.

And now at length discerning the evil that we do, Behold us, Lord, returning with hope and trust to you. In haste you come to meet us and home rejoicing bring, In gladness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.

O Lord of all the living, both banished and restored, Compassionate, forgiving and ever-caring Lord, Grant now that our transgressing, our faithlessness may cease. Stretch out your hand in blessing, in pardon, and in peace.

## \* The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

#### \* The Prayers of Intercession

LET US PRAY FOR THE CHURCH, THE CREATION, AND THE WHOLE PEOPLE OF GOD, FOR GOD IS NEAR.

#### A brief silence.

RAISE UP FAITHFUL LEADERS FOR YOUR CHURCH AROUND THE WORLD. INSPIRE GLOBAL MISSIONARIES WITH A SPIRIT OF ACCOMPANIMENT, AS THEY WALK ALONGSIDE OUR PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL IN SOLIDARITY, INTERDEPENDENCE, AND MUTUALITY. HEAR US, O GOD.

#### Your mercy is great.

SAFEGUARD RIVERS AND LAKES FROM POLLUTION. SUSTAIN THE WORK OF CONSERVATIONISTS, POLICY MAKERS, AND ADVOCACY GROUPS SEEKING TO PROTECT FRESH WATER SOURCES. HEAR US, O GOD.

#### Your mercy is great.

BRIDGE DIVISIONS ACROSS PARTISAN LINES. STRENGTHEN COOPERATIVE EFFORTS AMONG LAWMAKERS WHO ENACT POLICIES THAT PROTECT OUR NEIGHBORS WHO ARE MOST VULNERABLE. HEAR US, O GOD.

#### Your mercy is great.

EMBRACE ALL WHO SUFFER IN ISOLATION: FOR THOSE WHO ARE INCARCERATED OR DETAINED, THOSE WHO ARE FLEEING FROM UNSAFE ENVIRONMENTS, AND THOSE WHO ARE SICK ESPECIALLY FORREST, MARGARET, STEVE, CHRISTINE, EDDIE, GEORGE, JAN, AND ALL OUR MEMBERS WHO ARE HOMEBOUND. REASSURE THEM OF YOUR CARE IN ALL TIMES AND PLACES. HEAR US, O GOD.

#### Your mercy is great.

GUIDE THE LEADERS OF THIS CONGREGATION. IN THESE LATE SUMMER WEEKS, INSPIRE THEIR PLANNING FOR A NEW PROGRAM YEAR AHEAD. KINDLE IN US A SPIRIT OF COLLABORATION AND SUPPORT FOR THEIR WORK. HEAR US, O GOD.

#### Your mercy is great.

WITH THANKSGIVING, WE REMEMBER THE CLOUD OF WITNESSES WHO SURROUND US. BY THE EXAMPLE OF THEIR FAITH, ENABLE US TO RUN WITH PERSEVERANCE THE RACE SET BEFORE US, UNTIL THAT DAY WHEN WE JOIN THEIR UNENDING PRAISE. HEAR US, O GOD.

## Your mercy is great.

GOD OF GRACE AND MERCY, (PLEASE SHARE ANY PERSONAL PRAYER PETITIONS) HEAR OUR PETITIONS THAT WE SPEAK OUT LOUD AND THE ONES THAT WE HOLD IN OUR HEARTS. HEAR US, O GOD,

#### Your mercy is great.

CONFIDENT IN GOD'S PRESENCE AND PROMISE, WE ENTRUST OUR PRAYERS TO THE ONE WHO ALWAYS RECEIVES THEM; THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, OUR WISDOM AND COMPANION. **Amen.** 

#### \* The Peace of Christ

THE PEACE OF THE LORD BE WITH YOU ALWAYS.

And also with you.

## ~The Meal~

## The Offering and Offertory

Zion members, please use your envelopes for contributions so that your offering may be officially recorded. Please mail your envelopes to Zion Lutheran Church 101 N. Greenwood Street Tamaqua, PA 18252 or visit ziontamaqua.com for our Vanco option.

### \* The Offertory Procession "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful" (ELW Hymn No. 182)

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.

Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, That we may be fed with the bread of life.

Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; Unite them with the prayers we offer now.

Grace our table with your presence, And give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

### \* The Offertory Prayer

LET US PRAY: CREATOR GOD, IN YOUR WISDOM YOU BRING FORTH ALL THAT IS GOOD AND THE HARVEST IS PLENTIFUL. STRENGTHEN US AT YOUR TABLE WITH THESE GIFTS OF THE EARTH AND OUR LABOR, THAT WE MAY WORK FOR THE GOOD OF ALL, THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, OUR SAVIOR.

Amen.

## \* The Great Thanksgiving

### \* The Preface and Sanctus (ELW Pg. 180)

THE LORD BE WITH YOU

(Spoken) And also with you.

LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS.

We lift them to the Lord.

LET US GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD OUR GOD.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

IT IS INDEED RIGHT......THEIR UNENDING HYMN: (ELW Pg. 181)

Holy, holy, holy Lord God, God of might and power; holy is the Lord.

Holy, holy, holy, holy Lord God, God of might and power; holy is the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna here on earth.

Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna here on earth.

Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

### \* The Prayer of Thanksgiving

HOLY, MIGHTY, AND MERCIFUL LORD, HEAVEN AND EARTH ARE FULL OF YOUR GLORY.....POUR OUT UPON US THE SPIRIT OF YOUR LOVE, O LORD, AND UNITE THE WILLS OF ALL WHO SHARE THIS HEAVENLY FOOD, THE BODY AND BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST, OUR LORD; TO WHOM, WITH YOU AND THE HOLY SPIRIT, BE ALL HONOR AND GLORY, NOW AND FOREVER.

Amen.

## \* The Lord's Prayer

JESUS, REMEMBER US IN YOUR KINGDOM: AND TEACH US TO PRAY:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

## \* The Invitation to the Holy Meal

THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS SET BEFORE YOU. EAT AND REJOICE.

\* The Agnus Dei "Lamb of God" (ELW Pg. 182)

O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

#### The Distribution

All who are baptized and believe that Christ is truly present in the Sacrament are welcome to commune when we celebrate the Lord's Supper. Zion members, please complete a Communion card once a year for our records.

#### \* The Post-Communion Blessing

THE BODY AND BLOOD OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST STRENGTHEN YOU AND KEEP YOU IN HIS GRACE.

Amen.

#### \* The Post Communion Prayer

LET US PRAY: MOTHERING GOD, YOU GATHERED US TO YOUR TABLE AND WE DRANK DEEPLY OF YOUR GRACE. SEND US OUT BY YOUR SPIRIT TO LOVE OUR NEIGHBORS AS OURSELVES AND PROCLAIM YOUR LOVE IN JESUS' NAME.

Amen.

## ~The Sending~

## \* The Blessing

THE LOVE OF GOD ABOUND IN YOU; THE GRACE OF OUR SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST FILL YOUR HEARTS; AND THE LIFE OF THE SPIRIT + BLESS YOU AND GIVE YOU PEACE.

(Spoken) Amen.

#### \* The Dismissal

GO IN PEACE, LIVE BY THE SPIRIT.

Thanks be to God.

\* The Sending Hymn

"When in Our Music God is Glorified"

No. 555

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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## First Reading: Jeremiah 23:23-29 – Not Printed

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:29—12:2 - <sup>29</sup> By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. <sup>30</sup> By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. <sup>31</sup> By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace. <sup>32</sup> And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, <sup>33</sup> who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup> quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. <sup>35</sup> Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. <sup>36</sup> Others suffered mocking and flogging and even chains and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup> They were stoned to death; they were sawn in two; they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented <sup>38</sup> of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains and in caves and holes in the ground.

<sup>39</sup> Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, <sup>40</sup> since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect. <sup>12:1</sup> Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Gospel: Luke 12:49-56 - [Jesus said:] <sup>49</sup> "I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! <sup>50</sup> I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! <sup>51</sup> Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! <sup>52</sup> From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; <sup>53</sup> they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law." <sup>54</sup> He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain,' and so it happens. <sup>55</sup> And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat,' and it happens. <sup>56</sup> You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

August 24, 2025 readings are:

Isaiah 58:9b-14 Hebrews 12:18-29 Psalm 103:1-8 Luke 13:10-17

# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

August 16-17, 2025

\*If you need assistance, please see one of the ushers in the back of the church; Large Print Bulletins are available. Grape juice is available in the tray for those who wish not to partake of the wine. Please Silence your cell phones during service. A Family Room is available for use during or after services, located across from the office. A changing station is available for your convenience in the restroom across from the Family Room. We respectfully ask that you refrain from taking photos during the service. Opportunities are always available after the service. Welcome visitors, please sign our guest book. Thank you.

#### GIFTS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

THE ALTAR CANDLES are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of her parents, Arlington & Yustina Hawk by Dave & Darlene Fetterman

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of Jean Derr for her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday by daughter and son-in-law, Arlene and Carter Davison.

THE BULLETINS are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of John & Fern Woodring whose 79<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary was August 16<sup>th</sup> by children, Ray, Bob, Shelly, and Jimmy

**Please remember the following in your prayers:** Forrest, Margaret, Steve Ristila, Christine Zimmerman, Eddie Smith, George Weaver, Jan McRoberts, and all our members who are homebound.

A reminder that both a record of communion AND a record of contribution is necessary to maintain voting active member status. Please remember to complete a communion card and to use your offering envelopes. Thank you, Church Council

## Welcome!!

Parish office phone number and fax is 570-668-2180.

Parish office email address is <u>zionlcof@verizon.net</u>

Parish website is www.ziontamaqua.com

Parish Office Hours- Monday & Wednesday: 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Tuesday: 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

Zion's 2024 Church Council officers: Michael Haspe, President, Brian Lawfer, Vice-President, Amanda Hascin, Secretary, Dave Gensure, Treasurer, and Ann Marie Hadesty, Financial Secretary. Other members of Council include Arlene Derr, Glenn Fritzinger, Thomas Graham, Carol Hartung, Brittany Scalfani Mary Ruth Taylor, Michelle Valentine; and Shelly Woodring; if you have suggestions or concerns, please seek out a member of Council so that we can promptly address the needs of the congregation.

# This Week in Our Church

SUNDAY, August 17, 2025

9:00 The Service of Word & Sacrament

**MONDAY** 

Newsletter Deadline

5:45 Property Meeting

6:30 Council Meeting

**TUESDAY** 

Peach Social Prep

WEDNESDAY

4:00 Peach Social

**SATURDAY** 

6:00 Saturday Evening Worship

SUNDAY, August 24, 2025

9:00 The Service of Word & Sacrament

**DEADLINE:** All information for the **September 2025 issue of the "Herald"** is due at the church office no later than **Monday**, **August 18**, **2025.** You may e-mail your information to <u>zionlcof@verizon.net</u> or stop in during regular office hours. Thank you for your co-operation!

**Culinary Hoagie Sale** September 11<sup>th</sup> - deadline to order is September 7<sup>th</sup> - Regular Hoagies are \$8 each. Pick up is from 11:00 am until 1:00 pm. Order at <a href="https://www.ziontamaqua.com">https://www.ziontamaqua.com</a> or by calling 570-668-4451. Thank you for your support!!

# **Upcoming Events**

**August 18** – Newsletter Deadline

August 20 - Peach Social

**September 4** – Choir Rehearsal Begins

**September 5** – Blessings Thrift Shop

September 11 – Hoagie Sale

**Zion's Blessings Thrift Shop** is on Friday, September 5<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 5 pm. The sale features gently used clothing for all ages, toys, books, and general household items. Come take a look! Limited Take-Out Menu. Thank you all for your continued support!



# **Peach Social**

Wednesday, August 20, 2025 4:00 until 6:00 or sellout Cake, Ice cream, and Fresh Peaches -\$6.00 Additional food items will be available.

The culinary crew is asking for your help in providing plain white or yellow cakes with no icing. Help will be needed on Tuesday, August 19<sup>th</sup> to prepare for the social time TBA. Please contact Glenn at (484) 560-8211 or Mary Ruth at 570-668-4451 for more information. We hope to see you there!

Altar Flower and Bulletin Sponsors needed for 2025 - The Altar Flower and Bulletin Sponsor list for 2025 is on the bulletin board. The costs of the flowers are \$42.60; individuals will be billed from the florist. The cost of the bulletin sponsorship is \$16.00; monies are due when you place your name on the list. Please remember to fill out a card with your honorarium or memorial, this information is needed for the bulletin. Please do not sign up without filling out a form. Please contact the church office if you have questions. Thank you in advance for your sponsorship!

**Blessings Thrift** — Please ensure items being donated are "gently" used. Clothing and bedding should be free of holes, stains and pet hair. We cannot accept items with company names, advertisements or personal name labels (such as those from nursing homes or hospitals). Electronics and small appliances should be in good working order. Toys and games must include all pieces. Due to an overabundance of donations, we ask that you call the church office at (570) 668-2180 and leave your contact information. Your name will be put on a list, and someone will contact you when we are able to accept your items. Please DO NOT leave bags or boxes at random places in the church, on the stage or outside of the building. Thank you for your cooperation. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

Choir rehearsals will begin on Thursday, September 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 **PM.** Anyone who enjoys singing is welcome to join us. We hope to see you there! Thanks, Sandy

In talking with the people John says in Luke 3:11 "Whoever has two tunics should share with him who has none, and whoever has food should do the same." This is a reminder that the People Pantry is being used heavily and in need of donations. While grocery shopping pick up an extra item to share with our less fortunate community neighbors. "Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7



#### **COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP CONTACTS:**

Altar Guild	Michelle Valentine	<u>azaleamichelle02@gmail.com</u>
Acolyte Director	Joe Ansbach	717-466-3901
<b>Blessings Thrift Sale</b>	Judy Brennan	jdymatteo@yahoo.com
Capital	VACANT	zionlutheraneducation@gmail.com
Campaign	(Michael Haspe –	
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	(Brian Lawfer –	
	Interim)	
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