

Welcome!

I have found
the coin that
I had lost

LUKE 15:9



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

101 N. Greenwood Street, Tamaqua, PA 18252

(570) 668-2180 - Email: zionlcof@verizon.net

Our Mission: Zion proclaims the Gospel of Jesus Christ through Word and Sacrament as Gospel messengers in the community. We seek to be instruments through which God transforms lives and strengthens relationships within families and within our community of believers

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 11, 2022 ~ 9:00 am

The Liturgy of Word and Sacrament

The grumbling of the religious leaders in today's gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God seeks and saves the lost is not only a holy hope, it is our only hope. As the writer of 1 Timothy reminds us, "The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Thanks be to God.

**Congregation please stand*

The Pre-service Music

~ The Gathering ~

* The Confession and Forgiveness

BLESSED BE THE HOLY TRINITY, † ONE GOD, WHO IS EAGER TO FORGIVE AND WHO LOVES US BEYOND OUR DAYS.

Amen.

DEAR FRIENDS, TOGETHER LET US ACKNOWLEDGE OUR FAILURE TO LOVE THIS WORLD AS JESUS DOES.

Silence is kept for reflection.

GOD OF MERCY AND FORGIVENESS,

we confess that sin still has a hold on us. We have harmed your good creation. We have failed to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Turn us in a new direction. Show us the path that leads to life. Be our refuge and strength on the journey, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. Amen.

BELOVED OF GOD: YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN † AND YOU ARE MADE WHOLE. GOD POINTS THE WAY TO NEW LIFE IN CHRIST, WHO MEETS US ON THE ROAD. JOURNEY NOW IN GOD'S ABIDING LOVE THROUGH THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Amen.

* The Gathering Hymn

"Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise "

No.526

* The Greeting

SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN CHRIST, BELOVED CHILDREN OF GOD: GRACE, MERCY, AND PEACE BE WITH YOU ALL.

And also with you.

* The Kyrie Eleison *(music on page 57 of LBW)*

IN PEACE, LET US PRAY TO THE LORD.

(Sung) **Lord, have mercy.**

FOR THE PEACE FROM ABOVE, AND FOR OUR SALVATION, LET US PRAY TO THE LORD.

Lord, have mercy.

FOR THE PEACE OF THE WHOLE WORLD, FOR THE WELL-BEING OF THE CHURCH OF GOD, AND FOR THE UNITY OF ALL, LET US PRAY TO THE LORD.

Lord, have mercy.

FOR THIS HOLY HOUSE, AND FOR ALL WHO OFFER HERE THEIR WORSHIP AND PRAISE, LET US PRAY TO THE LORD.

Lord, have mercy.

HELP, SAVE, COMFORT, AND DEFEND US, GRACIOUS LORD.

Amen.

* **The Hymn of Praise** *“This is the Feast” (ELW pg. 187)*

This is the feast of vict'ry for our God. For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing and glory are his.

This is the feast of vict'ry for our God. For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing and honor, glory and might, be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of vict'ry for our God. For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

* **The Prayer of the Day**

THE LORD BE WITH YOU

(Sung) **And also with you.**

LET US PRAY:

O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

~The Word~

The First Lesson Exodus 32:7-14

While Moses is on Mount Sinai, the people grow restless and make a golden calf to worship. Today's reading shows Moses as the mediator between an angry God and a sinful people. Moses reminds God that the Israelites are God's own people, and boldly asks for mercy for them.

(After the reading)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 51:1-10 Tune *“Go to Dark Gethsemane”* No.109

HAVE MERCY ON ME, O GOD, ACCORDING TO YOUR STEADFAST LOVE. ACCORDING TO YOUR ABUNDANT MERCY, BLOT OUT MY TRANSGRESSIONS.

Cleanse my heart, O God, from sin; make my spirit pure within.

WASH ME THROUGH AND THROUGH FROM MY WICKEDNESS, AND CLEANSE ME FROM MY SIN. FOR I KNOW MY TRANSGRESSION, AND MY SIN IS EVER BEFORE ME.

Let your Holy Spirit be my companion constantly.

AGAINST YOU, YOU ALONE, HAVE I SINNED, AND DONE WHAT IS EVIL IN YOUR SIGHT; SO YOU ARE RIGHT IN JUDGING ME; YOU ARE JUSTIFIED IN CONDEMNING ME.

Fill my life once more with praise. I will serve you all my days.

I HAVE BEEN EVIL FROM THE DAY I WAS BORN, A SINNER FROM MY MOTHER'S WOMB. SINCERITY AND TRUTH ARE WHAT YOU REQUIRE; FILL MY MIND WITH YOUR WISDOM.

Cleanse my heart, O God, from sin; make my spirit right within.

LET ME HEAR OF JOY AND GLADNESS; LET THE BONES THAT YOU HAVE CRUSHED REJOICE.

Let my tongue its skill employ to proclaim your saving joy.

HIDE YOUR FACE FROM MY SINS, AND BLOT OUT ALL MY INIQUITIES.

In your mercy pity me; from transgression set me free.

The Second Lesson 1 Timothy 1:12-17

The letters to Timothy and Titus are called the pastoral epistles because they contain advice especially intended for leaders in the church. Here the mercy shown to Paul, who once persecuted the church, is cited as evidence that even the most unworthy may become witnesses to the grace of God.

(After the reading)

THE WORD OF THE LORD

Thanks be to God.

***The Gospel Acclamation (ELW p. 172)**

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah. Halle, Halle, Hallelujah.

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

*** The Holy Gospel St. Luke 15:1-10**

Jesus tells two stories that suggest a curious connection between the lost being found and sinners repenting. God takes the initiative to find sinners, each of whom is so precious to God that their recovery brings joy in heaven.

(Before the Gospel)

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT LUKE THE 15TH CHAPTER:

(sung) **Glory to you, O Lord.**

(After the Gospel)

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

(sung) **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Sermon

Pastor Cindy White

*** The Hymn of the Day**

“God’s Work, Our Hands”

Tune: “Earth and All Stars”

God's work, our hands: working together, building a future, repairing the world,

raising up homes, planting new gardens, feeding the hungry and shelt'ring the cold.

Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name, sharing the good news of your Gospel.

God's work, our feet: trav'ling together, following Jesus to places unknown,

walking as friends, marching for freedom, running the race with God's future the goal.

Bless, God, our feet as we follow your way, sharing the good news of your Gospel.

God's work, our voice: singing together, praising, proclaiming to all who will hear,

praying for peace, shouting for justice, claiming God's love for the lost and the least.

Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name, sharing the good news of your Gospel.

God is at work in and around us: seedlings are sprouting and bread's on the rise!

Washed and set free, humbled and honored, gifted by grace, we respond in God's love.

Bless, God, our lives as we answer your call, sharing the good news of your Gospel.

Text: Wayne L. Wold

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*** 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**

AS SCATTERED GRAINS OF WHEAT ARE GATHERED TOGETHER INTO ONE BREAD, SO LET US GATHER OUR PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH, THOSE IN NEED, AND ALL OF GOD'S GOOD CREATION.

A brief silence.

YOUR PEOPLE RECEIVE MERCY AND YOUR GRACE OVERFLOWS IN OUR LIVES. FILL YOUR CHURCH WITH FAITH AND LOVE, AND GIVE UNDERSTANDING HEARTS TO THOSE WHO WORK TO STRENGTHEN OUR ECUMENICAL AND INTERRELIGIOUS COMMITMENTS. GOD OF GRACE,

hear our prayer.

YOUR CREATION GROANS AS IT SUFFERS THE IMPACTS OF POLLUTION AND LACK OF CARE. AS THE SEASONS CHANGE, RENEW IN US THE WILL TO PROTECT PLANTS, ANIMALS, AND HABITATS. BLESS US WITH BOUNTIFUL HARVESTS THAT ALL MAY SHARE. GOD OF GRACE,

hear our prayer.

YOUR WORLD IS SHATTERED AND THE NATIONS RAGE. REMEMBER US IN YOUR MERCY. TEACH WISDOM TO OUR ELECTED LEADERS SO THAT WE KNOW PEACE IN OUR WORLD, PEACE IN OUR HOMES, AND PEACE IN OUR HEARTS. GOD OF GRACE,

hear our prayer.

YOUR CHILDREN WANDER HOMELESS AND THE HUNGRY CRY FOR BREAD. SEEK OUT THOSE WHO ARE LOST OR LONELY, ANXIOUS OR DEPRESSED, OR STRUGGLING WITH ADDICTION OR ILLNESS. PROVIDE FOR THOSE IN ANY NEED ESPECIALLY CINDY, ROBERT, GEORGE, PAT, DEREK, ELIZABETH, MARY, CHRIS, NANCY, RALPH, JOSEPH, EVA, JOHN, AND ALL OUR MEMBERS WHO ARE HOMEBOUND. GOD OF GRACE,

hear our prayer.

YOUR WORK IS DONE IN THIS CONGREGATION WITH OUR HANDS, FEET, VOICES, MINDS, AND HEARTS. BUILD UP THE MINISTRIES OF THIS COMMUNITY, THAT WE SERVE OUR NEIGHBORS AND WELCOME THE STRANGER IN YOUR NAME. GOD OF GRACE,

hear our prayer.

YOUR BLESSED SAINTS WHO HAVE DIED NOW REST IN YOUR PRESENCE. GIVE US THANKFUL HEARTS FOR THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN EXAMPLES OF FAITH IN OUR LIVES, AND RECEIVE US WITH JOY WHEN WE COME TO SHARE ETERNAL LIFE WITH YOU. GOD OF GRACE,

hear our prayer.

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. GOD OF GRACE,

hear our prayer.

GATHERED TOGETHER IN THE SWEET COMMUNION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, GRACIOUS GOD, WE OFFER THESE AND ALL OUR PRAYERS TO YOU; THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, OUR SAVIOR.

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 myEoffering option.

* The Offertory Procession Tune: *“God, Whose Farm is All Creation”*

**God, whose farm is all creation, take the gratitude we give;
Take the finest of our harvest, crops we grow that we may live.**

**Take our plowing, seeding, reaping, hopes and fears of sun and rain,
All our thinking, planning, waiting, ripened in this fruit and grain.**

* The Offertory Prayer

LET US PRAY: GRACIOUS GOD, IN YOUR GREAT LOVE YOU RICHLY PROVIDE FOR OUR NEEDS. MAKE OF THESE GIFTS A BANQUET OF BLESSING AND MAKE US READY TO SHARE WITH ALL IN NEED; THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, WHO SETS A TABLE FOR ALL.

Amen.

The Senior Choir Anthem

“Let the Whole Creation Cry” - Althouse

* The Great Thanksgiving

* The Preface and Sanctus *(music on page 68 of LBW)*

THE LORD BE WITH YOU

(Sung) **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 him thanks and praise.

IT IS INDEED RIGHT.....THEIR UNENDING HYMN: *(ELW NO. 193)*

(Sung) **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might:**

Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

* 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

MAKE US BOLD, O MERCIFUL GOD, TO ADDRESS YOU AS OUR ABBA AS WE 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**

CHRIST INVITES YOU TO THIS TABLE. COME, TASTE AND SEE.

*** The Agnus Dei “Lamb of God”** (ELW No. 195)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us 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 Cantic** (music on page 72 of LBW)

Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev’ryone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.

*** The Post Communion Prayer**

LET US PRAY: GOD OF THE ABUNDANT TABLE, YOU HAVE REFRESHED OUR HEARTS IN THIS MEAL WITH BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY. GIVE US YOUR GRACE ON THE ROAD THAT WE MIGHT SERVE OUR NEIGHBORS WITH JOY, FOR THE SAKE OF JESUS CHRIST, OUR LORD.
Amen.

~The Sending~

*** The Blessing**

GOD, WHO GIVES LIFE TO ALL THINGS AND FREES US FROM DESPAIR, BLESS YOU WITH TRUTH AND PEACE. AND MAY THE HOLY TRINITY, ✚ ONE GOD, GUIDE YOU ALWAYS IN FAITH, HOPE, AND LOVE.

(Sung) **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

*** The Sending**

GO IN PEACE, WITH CHRIST BESIDE YOU.
Thanks be to God.

*** The Sending Hymn**

“Amazing Grace”

No.448

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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First Reading: Exodus 32:7-14 – Not Printed

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

¹²I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, ¹³even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Gospel: Luke 15:1-10

¹Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

³So he told them this parable: ⁴“Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ ⁷Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸“Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ ¹⁰Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

September 18, 2022 readings are: Amos 8:4-7 Psalm 113
1 Timothy 2:1-7 Luke 16:1-13

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

September 10-11, 2022

**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 the hall 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 CANDLES are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Bommer by Melissa D'Alonzo.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of Bob "Pap" Trakes by Mike and Kathy Miller, Madeline Trakes and family.

THE BULLETINS are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of son, Stephen Smolar whose birthday is September 13th by Denise Smolar

Please remember the following in your prayers: Cindy Collura, Robert Dolbin, George Bozosi, Pat Brown, Derek Hill, Elizabeth Zimmerman, Mary Richards, Mrs. Chris Miller, Nancy Betz, Ralph Derr, Joseph Harvilla, Eva (Mitzi) Koomar, John Lattanzi, and all our members who are homebound.

Bulletin sponsors are needed for September 18th, and 25th.

Please sign up on the church bulletin board.

Welcome!!

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

Parish office email address is zionlcof@verizon.net

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 2022 Church Council officers: Michael Haspe, President, Tiffany Warden, Secretary, Dave Gensure, Treasurer, and Ann Marie Hadesty, Financial Secretary. Other members of Council include: Judy Brennan, Sam Caley, Arlene Derr, Ernie Henritz, Glenn Fritzing, Brian Lawfer, Steve Ristila and Mary Ruth Taylor; 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, September 11, 2022, *God's Work Our Hands Sunday*

9:00 The Service of Word & Sacrament

TUESDAY

9:30 Work Session

10:00 Take Down Butterflies

WEDNESDAY

Kitchen Reserved

6:00 NA Meeting

THURSDAY

9:30 Work Session

12:00 Pie/ Soup Sale Pick-up

7:00 Senior Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY

Kitchen Reserved

SATURDAY

1:00 Sippen Cider Make & Take Event

5:30 Saturday Evening Worship

NEXT SUNDAY, September 18, 2022, *Back to Church Sunday*

8:00 Confirmation Class

9:00 The Service of Word & Sacrament/ Joyful Noise Offering

10:15 Christian Education

10:15 Potluck Dinner

Please note if you have signed up for Altar Flowers, Bulletins or Candles please fill out a sponsor form. Forms should be filled out when placing your name on the sign-up sheet. Thank you.

Upcoming Events

September 11 – God's Work Our Hands Sunday

September 15 – Pie/ Soup Sale

September 17 – Sippen Cider/ Make & Take Event

September 18 – Back to Church Potluck

September 29 – Hoagie Sale

Congregational Life Committee Event: Sippen Cider, Make and Take
Saturday, September 17, 2022 – 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Make your own grapevine wreath. Refreshments will be served – Hot and cold apple cider, apple fritters, and pumpkin cookies. Members can bring a friend, to reserve your spot call Deb Davies at 570-778-2731.

A Fellowship Potluck will be held on Back to Church Sunday, September 18, following the morning worship service. Sign-up sheets are available in the gathering room. Hope to see you there!

September's Joyful Noise offering (collected the third weekend of the month) is for the Empty Bowl Dinner and Walk for Hunger. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Culinary is selling hoagies for pick-up September 29th from 12:00 noon - 3:00 pm. Please order by September 25. Cost is \$7.00. Order on the Zion website or call Mary Ruth at (570)668-4451.

Choir rehearsals have begun on Thursdays at 7:00 PM. Anyone interested in music is welcome to join us. Anthems are rehearsed many times, so even if you are not a music reader, you can join us. We hope to see you there!

Who needs some help? - We're looking for projects that can be completed on God's Work, Our Hands Sunday, Sept. 11. We'd like to help members of our congregation who might need a little help around their homes. We would also consider a project that would benefit the community. Please share your ideas with us. Call 570-668-2180.

FALL CLASSES BEGIN SEPTEMBER 18th!

Sunday School & Confirmation Registrations are NOW Open! Forms are on the gathering room table. Even if your student will be starting after fall activities we ask that you submit registrations so we can appropriately order supplies. Confirmation is open to students in 7th grade & up, and is a 2 year program.

Adult Education: We are proud to offer Adult Ed beginning in the Fall of 2022! Our first course will be an 8 week study entitled "Learning to study the Bible". Please fill out the form in the Gathering Room as we are still determining the best day/time to host the study. *Learning to Study the Bible* is an eight-week study for adults, exploring the biblical history and methods of interpretations using the classic questions: Who? What? When? Where? Why? and How? This study explores geography, archeology, biblical genre, context, and interpretation. Participants will also learn how to use important biblical resources such as Bible dictionaries, commentaries, concordances, and more.

Soup, Pies & Halupki Sale - Sold Out!! No more orders can be accepted. Thank you for your support! Pick-up is Thursday, September 15, 2022, from 12:00 until 3:00. Help will be needed on Wednesday, September 14th to prep for the sale. Please contact Glenn at 570-645-6361 or Mary Ruth at 570-668-4451 for more information.

Defeating Materialism and Selfishness

“Part of the difficult many people face is that they have become enslaved to money and possessions. The Scriptures warn of being caught up in ‘stuff’ and encourage us to be sure to focus on what is important (i.e., that which is eternal, heavenly and significant). The Bible provides many stories of people who worked hard, achieved big and emerged desperately poor in spirit. Proper priorities are a key to success; those priorities rely not upon acquisition and achievement, but upon obedience and richness of spirit.

“Scriptural Perspective

- Ecclesiastes 5:10 (recognize that wealth is meaningless and unsatisfying).
- Matthew 6:19-34 (be anxious about nothing; seek first God’s kingdom).
- Matthew 6:24 (master money by serving God with it).
- Matthew 19:16-24 (if the rich cannot part with their wealth, they are not following Christ).
- Luke 12:16-21 (the rich cannot buy God’s favor; recognize material goods for what they are).
- Philippians 4:10-13 (Paul was content in all situations, with whatever he had).
- 1 Timothy 6:6-10 (the love of money is the root of all evil).
- James 5:1-6 (wealth distorts our values and lifestyles).“ [How to Increase Giving in Your Church, George Barna]

DEADLINE: All information for the **October 2022 issue of the “Herald”** is due at the church office no later than **Monday, September 19, 2022**. You may e-mail your information to zionlcof@verizon.net or stop in during regular office hours. Thank you for your co-operation!

Please note if you have recently become a member or feel there are changes in your membership information please fill out a membership packet located in the Gathering Room. If you need them sent to you, please contact the church office. Thank you for keeping our records up to date.