

*Welcome!*



JESUS CAME TO JOHN AT THE  
JORDAN, TO BE BAPTIZED

MATTHEW 3:13

## *Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church*

101 N. Greenwood Street, Tamaqua, PA 18252

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

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

# The Baptism of Our Lord

January 15, 2023 ~ 9:30 am  
*The Liturgy of Word and Sacrament*

*In the waters of the Jordan, Jesus is revealed as the beloved Son of God. Through this great epiphany, Jesus fulfills all righteousness and becomes the servant of God who will bring forth justice and be a light to the nations. In the waters of baptism we too are washed by the Word, anointed by the Spirit, and named God's beloved children. Our baptismal mission is to proclaim good news to all who are oppressed or in need of God's healing.*

*\*Congregation please stand*

## The Pre-service Music

~ The Gathering ~

### \* The Confession and Forgiveness

BLESSED BE THE HOLY TRINITY, ✚ ONE GOD, WHO MAKES ALL THINGS NEW, WHOSE MERCY ENDURES FOREVER.

**Amen.**

TRUSTING IN GOD'S MERCY, LET US CONFESS OUR SIN.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

HOLY ONE, SOURCE OF OUR RENEWAL,

**we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

THUS SAYS OUR GOD: "THE FORMER THINGS HAVE COME TO PASS AND NEW THINGS I NOW DECLARE." GOD'S MERCY MAKES US NEW. WE ARE FORGIVEN IN THE NAME OF ✚ CHRIST OUR SAVIOR.

**Amen.**

### \* The Gathering Hymn

*"Arise, Your Light Has Come"*

WOV No. 652

**Arise, your light has come! The Spirit's call obey;  
Show forth the glory of your God which shines on you today.**

**Arise, your light has come! Fling wide the prison door;  
Proclaim the captive's liberty, good tidings to the poor.**

**Arise, your light has come! All you in sorrow born,  
Bind up the broken-hearted ones and comfort those who mourn.**

**Arise, your light has come! The mountains burst in song!  
Rise up like eagles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.**

### \* The Greeting

THE BOUNDLESS GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THE WISDOM OF GOD, AND THE LIGHT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT 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** *(music on page 58 of LBW)*

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST, AND PEACE TO HIS PEOPLE ON EARTH.

**Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father: We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

\* **The Prayer of the Day**

THE LORD BE WITH YOU

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

LET US PRAY:

**Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

~The Word~

**The First Lesson Isaiah 42:1-9**

*God's servant is endowed with God's spirit in order to bring justice to the nations. The servant will not exercise authority boisterously or with violence, nor will weariness ever prevent the fulfilling of the servant's task. God's old promises have been fulfilled; the servant's new assignment is to bring light to the nations.*

*(After the reading)*

THE WORD OF THE LORD

**Thanks be to God.**

**The Psalm 40:1-11 Tune "As With Gladness Men of Old" No. 82**

**To the Lord I raised my cry. In due time he made reply,**

HE PULLED ME OUT OF A DANGEROUS PIT, OUT OF A MUDDY HOLE. HE SET ME SAFELY ON A ROCK AND MADE ME SECURE. HE TAUGHT ME TO SING A NEW SONG, A SONG OF PRAISE TO OUR GOD.

**Blest are they who trust the Lord; And give heed unto his Word.**

FOR YOU HAVE DONE MANY THINGS FOR US, LORD MY GOD; THERE IS NO ONE LIKE YOU! YOU HAVE MADE MANY WONDERFUL PLANS FOR US. IF I TRIED TO SPEAK OF ALL OF THEM, THERE WOULD BE MORE THAN I COULD TELL.

**Let me tell your glory still; How I love to do your will!**

YOU DO NOT WANT SACRIFICES AND OFFERINGS TO TAKE AWAY SINS. INSTEAD, YOU HAVE GIVEN ME EARS TO HEAR YOU, AND SO I ANSWERED, "HERE I AM; YOUR INSTRUCTIONS FOR ME ARE IN THE BOOK OF THE LAW."

**How I love to do your will; Let your words my praises fill.**

IN THE MEETING OF ALL YOUR PEOPLE, LORD, I TOLD THE GOOD NEWS THAT YOU SAVE. YOU KNOW THAT I WILL NEVER STOP TELLING IT.

**To the Lord I raised my cry. In due time he made reply.**

I HAVE ALWAYS SPOKEN OF YOUR FAITHFULNESS AND HELP. IN THE MEETING OF ALL YOUR PEOPLE I HAVE NOT BEEN SILENT ABOUT YOUR CONSTANT LOVE AND LOYALTY.

**God is faithful to his Word; Blest are they who trust the Lord!**

## **The Second Lesson Acts 10:34-43**

*Peter crosses the sharp religious boundary separating Jews from Gentiles and proclaims the good news of God's inclusive forgiveness in Jesus' name to Cornelius, a Roman centurion. As a result of Peter's preaching, Cornelius and his family become the first Gentiles to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.*

*(After the reading)*

THE WORD OF THE LORD

**Thanks be to God.**

## **\* The Gospel Acclamation (Celtic Alleluia ELW 174)**

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

## **\* The Holy Gospel St. Matthew 3:13-17**

*Before Jesus begins his ministry, he is baptized by John, touched by the Spirit, and identified publicly as God's child.*

*(Before the Gospel)*

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT MATTHEW THE 3<sup>RD</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**

***"This is the Spirit's Entry Now"***

ELW No. 448

**This is the Spirit's entry now: the water and the word,  
the cross of Jesus on your brow, the seal both felt and heard.**

**This miracle of life reborn comes from the Lord of breath;  
the sinless one from life was torn; our life comes through his death.**

**Let water be the sacred sign that we must die each day  
to rise again by his design as foll'wers of his way.**

**Renewing Spirit, hear our praise for your baptismal pow'r  
that washes us through all our days. Come, cleanse again this hour.**

## **\* 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**

CALLED TOGETHER TO FOLLOW JESUS, WE PRAY FOR THE CHURCH, THE WORLD, AND ALL IN NEED.

*A brief silence.*

PUT A NEW SONG IN THE MOUTH OF YOUR CHURCH. INSPIRE THE BAPTIZED TO TELL OF YOUR FAITHFULNESS, SHARING THE GOOD NEWS OF YOUR SALVATION THROUGHOUT THE EARTH. BLESS THE WITNESS OF MISSIONARIES. MERCIFUL GOD,

**receive our prayer.**

THE WATERS OF BAPTISM CALL US INTO LIFE IN THE SPIRIT. PRESERVE THE WORLD'S WATERS: PROTECT THEM FROM POLLUTION, SUPPORT PLANTS AND ANIMALS WHO DEPEND ON THEM, AND BRING RAIN IN PLACES OF DROUGHT. GUIDE US IN PROTECTING LOCAL WATERWAYS AND IN RESPONDING TO DEVASTATING FLOODS. MERCIFUL GOD,

**receive our prayer.**

IN JESUS YOU ARE THE LAMB OF GOD WHO TAKES AWAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD. SHOW YOUR MERCY TO ALL NATIONS. DIRECT LEADERS TO DO YOUR WILL; FILL GOVERNING BODIES WITH RIGHTEOUSNESS; EQUIP JUDGES WITH DISCERNMENT AND COMPASSION. MERCIFUL GOD,

**receive our prayer.**

YOU INCLINE YOUR EAR TO ALL WHO CRY TO YOU. DRAW NEAR TO INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITIES SUFFERING VIOLENCE, INJUSTICE, ILLNESS, OR POVERTY. HIDE THEM IN THE SHADOW OF YOUR HAND AND MAKE US SIGNS OF YOUR FAITHFULNESS TO ALL IN NEED WE PRAY ESPECIALLY FOR CAROLYN, MARLIN, KIM, JOHN, DENA, TIM, CINDY, ROBERT, GEORGE, PAT, DEREK, ELIZABETH, MARY, CHRIS, NANCY, RALPH, JOSEPH, EVA, AND ALL OUR MEMBERS WHO ARE HOMEBOUND. MERCIFUL GOD,

**receive our prayer.**

YOU ARE GLORIFIED IN THE SERVANTS YOU HAVE CALLED. WITH MARTIN LUTHER KING JR., GIVE US BOLD TRUST IN YOU. EVEN WHEN IT FEELS LIKE A SHARP SWORD OR POLISHED ARROW, GIVE US COURAGE TO RECEIVE YOUR CALL TO REPENTANCE AND RACIAL JUSTICE. MERCIFUL GOD,

**receive our prayer.**

IN EVERY PLACE AND TIME, YOU HAVE SANCTIFIED YOUR PEOPLE. WE PRAISE YOU FOR THE TESTIMONY OF THOSE WHO HAVE DIED IN THE FAITH. STRENGTHEN US AS WE WAIT FOR THE DAY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST. MERCIFUL GOD,

**receive 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. MERCIFUL GOD,

**receive our prayer.**

WE BRING TO YOU OUR NEEDS AND HOPES, O GOD, TRUSTING YOUR WISDOM AND POWER REVEALED IN CHRIST CRUCIFIED.

**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** Tune: “Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow” No. 565  
**Praise God from whom all blessing flow; Praise him all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

- \* **The Offertory Prayer**

LET US PRAY: LIBERATING GOD, YOU BREAK THE BONDS OF INJUSTICE AND LET THE OPPRESSED GO FREE. RECEIVE THESE OFFERINGS IN THANKSGIVING FOR ALL YOUR WORKS OF MERCIFUL POWER, AND SHAPE US AS PEOPLE OF YOUR JUSTICE AND FREEDOM. YOU WE MAGNIFY AND ADORE, THROUGH JESUS OUR SAVIOR,  
**Amen.**

- \* **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 ONE, THE BEGINNING AND THE END, THE GIVER OF LIFE: BLESSED ARE YOU FOR THE BIRTH OF CREATION...BLESSED ARE YOU FOR YOUR SON JESUS, THE WORD MADE FLESH.  
IN THE NIGHT IN WHICH HE WAS BETRAYED, OUR LORD JESUS TOOK BREAD, AND GAVE THANKS...DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.

AGAIN, AFTER SUPPER, HE TOOK THE CUP, GAVE THANKS...DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.

LET US PROCLAIM THE MYSTERY OF FAITH:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

WITH THIS BREAD AND CUP WE REMEMBER YOUR WORD DWELLING AMONG US, FULL OF GRACE AND TRUTH. WE REMEMBER OUR NEW BIRTH IN HIS DEATH AND RESURRECTION. WE LOOK WITH HOPE FOR HIS COMING.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

HOLY GOD, WE LONG FOR YOUR SPIRIT. COME AMONG US. BLESS THIS MEAL. MAY YOUR WORD TAKE FLESH IN US. AWAKEN YOUR PEOPLE. FILL US WITH YOUR LIGHT. BRING THE GIFT OF PEACE ON EARTH.

**Come Holy Spirit.**

ALL PRAISE AND GLORY ARE YOURS, HOLY ONE OF ISRAEL, WORD OF GOD INCARNATE, POWER OF THE MOST HIGH, ONE GOD, 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**

COME AND TASTE THE JOY OF GOD!

**\* 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 Canticle (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: HOLY ONE, WE THANK YOU FOR THE HEALING THAT SPRINGS FORTH ABUNDANTLY FROM THIS TABLE. RENEW OUR STRENGTH TO DO JUSTICE, LOVE KINDNESS, AND JOURNEY HUMBLY WITH YOU.

**Amen.**

**The Senior Choir Anthem “What Did the Star See?” – Williams/ Martin**

**~The Sending~**

**\* The Benediction & Dismissal**

THE GOD WHO FAITHFULLY BRINGS FORTH JUSTICE AND BREAKS THE OPPRESSOR'S ROD  
✠ BLESS, STRENGTHEN, AND UPHOLD YOU, TODAY AND ALWAYS.

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

**\* The Sending**

GO IN PEACE. FOLLOW THE WAY OF JESUS.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\* The Sending Hymn**

***“Baptized in Water”***

ELW No. 456

**Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, cleansed by the blood of Christ our king:  
heirs of salvation, trusting his promise, faithfully now God's praise we sing.**

**Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, dead in the tomb with Christ our king:  
one with his rising, freed and forgiven, thankfully now God's praise we sing.**

**Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, marked with the sign of Christ our king:  
born of the Spirit, we are God's children; joyfully now God's praise we sing.**

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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**First Reading: Isaiah 42:1-9 – Not Printed**

**Second Reading: Acts 10:34-43 – Not Printed**

**Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17**

<sup>13</sup>Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup>John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” <sup>15</sup>But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. <sup>16</sup>And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup>And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

**January 22, 2023 readings are:**

Isaiah 9:1-4

Psalms 27:1, 4-9

1 Corinthians 1:10-18 Matthew 4:12-23



# ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

January 14-15, 2023

*\*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 Robert Fritzingler III by Glenn and Lorie Fritzingler

**THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of my mother, Ella Gerber by daughter, Marlene McLaughlin and family

**THE BULLETINS** are given to the Glory of God and

In honor of birthdays of grandson, Nikolas Smith on January 18<sup>th</sup> and daughter, Tracey K. Taras on January 26<sup>th</sup> by Denise Smolar

**Prayer List Updates** - We Periodically refresh our parish prayer list to keep it up to date. Please contact the office to keep someone's name on the list; we will be refreshing our list on January 22, 2023. Remember that it is always good to get permission from the person before adding a name.

*Please remember the following in your prayers: Dr. Kathryn Kropp, Carolyn and Marlin Tirpak, Kim and John Eckert, Dena and Tim Phillips, 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.*

## **Welcome!!**

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

Parish office email address is [zionlcof@verizon.net](mailto:zionlcof@verizon.net)

Parish website is [www.ziontamaqua.com](http://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, Brian Lawfer, Vice-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 Fritzingler, 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, January 15, 2023

- 8:00 Confirmation Class
- 9:00 The Service of Word & Sacrament
- 10:15 Christian Education
- 10:15 Senior Choir Rehearsal

## MONDAY

- 6:30 Council Meeting

## WEDNESDAY

- 6:00 NA Meeting

## FRIDAY

- 5:30 Diaper Depot Prep

## SATURDAY

- 9:00 Diaper Depot Distribution
- 5:30 Saturday Evening Worship

## NEXT SUNDAY, January 22, 2023

- 8:00 Confirmation Class
- 9:00 The Service of Word & Sacrament
- 10:15 Christian Education
- 10:15 Senior Choir Rehearsal
- 1:00 Baptism

**DEADLINE:** All information for the **February 2023 issue of the “Herald”** is due at the church office no later than **Monday, January 23, 2023**. You may e-mail your information to [zioncof@verizon.net](mailto:zioncof@verizon.net) or stop in during regular office hours. Thank you for your co-operation!

**Remember to shop with the AmazonSmile program.** Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to **Zion** whenever you shop on AmazonSmile. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. Support Zion by shopping at **smile.amazon.com**. Just go to our website and click the link. Thanks in advance for your support!!



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You shop. Amazon gives.

## ***GIFTS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD***

***CURRENT FUND DONATIONS*** are given to the Glory of God and

Birthday remembrance for Mr. E.A. Follweiler from his loving family

In honor of John Dietrich on his January 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday by wife Carol, Jeff and Johnny

***ENDOWMENT FUND DONATIONS*** are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of Bruce J. Hoffman by Mary Domansky

In loving memory of Ted & Eulalia Weston by Walter & Jane Weston

***IMPROVEMENT FUND DONATIONS*** are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of her parents, John & Mae Barton by Rev. David & Beverly Knoebel

In loving memory of her grandmother, Gertrude Kemner Reichelderfer by The Rev. David & Beverly Knoebel

### **Upcoming Events**

**January 23** – Newsletter Deadline

**February 3** – Blessings Thrift Sale

**February 12** – Annual Congregational Meeting

**Zion's Blessings Thrift Shop sale** is on Friday, February 3<sup>rd</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. Shoppers must wear masks and maintain social distancing.

***Altar Flower and Bulletin Sponsors needed for 2023 - The Altar Flower and Bulletin Sponsor list for 2023 is on the bulletin board. The costs of the flowers are \$36.80 (please note price increase) and individuals will be billed from the florist. The cost of the bulletin sponsorship is \$16.00 and monies are due when you place your name on the list. You can also sponsor the Candles for the month at \$40. 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. These sponsorships are on a first come first serve basis; this is to ensure that everyone has equal opportunity to sponsor these memorials. Please contact the church office if you have questions. Thank you in advance for your sponsorship!***

**Our ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** will be held Sunday, February 12, 2023, following the 9:00 am Service. Our agenda will consist of the approval of the 2022 Annual reports for all committees and organizations. As always, we encourage all members to attend this meeting as a quorum needs to be met.

**Attention Committees:** All committee chairpersons are reminded to submit a report outlining the activities of your committee in 2022 for the annual report. These reports are to be submitted to the church office **ASAP**. You can e-mail the church office at [zionlcof@verizon.net](mailto:zionlcof@verizon.net) or stop by the office. Thank you for your co-operation.

## Inclement Weather Policy

If we get inclement weather preceding a worship service, members of our congregation will be able to get information by the doing the following:

- Check out our website at [www.ziontamaqua.com](http://www.ziontamaqua.com) and our Facebook page
- Listen to WLSH AM1410 and WMGH FM 105.5
- Call the church office to hear a recorded message on our answering machine.  
(570-668-2180)

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

### **YOUR CARD MATTERED**

As of Saturday, December 31, we received 62 intent cards. Forty-six of those cards expressed a definite increase in generosity for the coming year. The Generosity Team thanks the 62 individuals and families who returned their cards and reminds all members that generosity is an essential part of our faith journey.

Besides freeing the \$2,000 challenge gift that will go to Zion ministries including Christian Education and the proposed Stephen Ministry, completing and returning your card demonstrates your caring for the future of all Zion ministries.

Our leaders can better administrate our ministries when giving is planned, consistent and progressive. Completing and returning your intent card reflects your ability to plan your giving for the coming year. Your giving is intentional, not accidental or spur of the moment. Using our new giving page on our website and Facebook page allows your giving to be consistent on a weekly or monthly basis, especially when you are unable to attend worship. As we move along our discipleship journey, our giving is progressive and increases as our faith grows and strengthens.

The Zion Generosity Team