



*The  
Herald*

*March/April 2024*

Newsletter for the Congregation  
And Friends of  
**ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

101 N. Greenwood Street, Tamaqua, PA 18252

(570) 668-2180 ~ FAX (570)668-2181

Pastor ~ Cindy White

Melody Gensure ~ Parish Administrator - Email~ [zionlcof@verizon.net](mailto:zionlcof@verizon.net)

Parish website ~ [www.ziontamaqua.com](http://www.ziontamaqua.com)

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

God's grace and peace be with you  
beloved friends and family of Zion,



My Celtic heritage reminds me of the senseless religious wars that are part of my history. What personal wars are we facing during this sacred season of lent? Saint Patrick drove the snakes out of Ireland in the 5<sup>th</sup> century. What “snakes” can the Holy Spirit exorcise from and for us? My personal challenge this past month has been the loss of my beloved mother. It would be tempting to take a month off, crawl under my covers, pray, cry, eat and pray some more. I have discerned through prayer, that this is NOT what God (or my mother) would be honored by at this time. I am currently living in a simultaneous time of joy and sadness. I know there are many of you that will understand this. Being with all of you and serving this congregation has been an incredible steadying force for me. I have so appreciated your prayers and memorials. I cannot thank you enough. Here is a question for all of us. What honors God most in our times of sorrow and lament? The answer can be quite different for each one of us. The most important thing to remember is that God promises to be with us **ALWAYS**. We will be moving from Lent into the Easter season throughout the month of March. I hope to see as many of you as possible at our midweek Lenten services, our weekend services and Easter. Let us stay strong and courageous together and praise God for the greatest gift of all time..... Jesus. I pray with God's help that we can ward off any snakes in our minds, hearts and lives. God Bless you.

With love and appreciation,  
Pastor Cindy

***“I will be with you always Even until unto the end of the world”*** Matthew 28:20

**Morning Prayer on Facebook and Website:** Rev. Cindy White reads a selected Bible verse and offers a brief message or song Wednesdays at 9 a.m. Individuals with specific prayer requests can email those requests to Pastor White at [zionlutheranrev@gmail.com](mailto:zionlutheranrev@gmail.com).



Zion's Blessings Thrift Shop sale is on Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, April 5<sup>th</sup>, and May 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. Thank you all for your continued support!

*Altar Flower and Candle Sponsors are needed for 2024 - The Altar Flower and Candle Sponsor list for 2024 is on the bulletin board. The cost of the flowers are \$42.40, and individuals will be billed from the florist. 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. Please contact the church office if you have questions. Thank you in advance!*



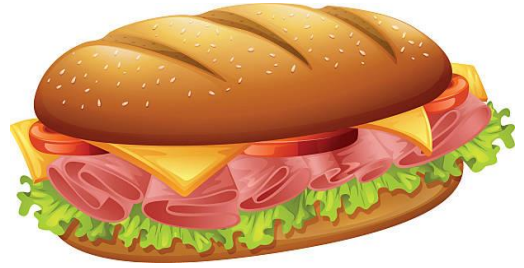
**Reminder:** If you have sponsored Altar Flowers or Candles for 2024, please fill out the information cards in the gathering room. The information is needed for the bulletin and the Florist. If payment for the sponsorship is not received prior to the date, the information will not be printed in the bulletin, please pay and fill out a form when you add your name on the list. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.



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

# Culinary Hoagie Sale

The Culinary Team is holding a hoagie sale. Regular Hoagies are \$7 each. Order by Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, at <https://www.ziontamaqua.com> or by calling 570-668-4451. Pick up is Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup> from noon until 3:00 pm. Thank you for your support!!



*Joyful Noise Offerings:* We collected \$120.93 for the January Joyful Noise offering for Tunnel to Towers. The February Joyful Noise collection was for the Tamaqua Blue Raiders Foundation, which supports and helps expand the education experience of the students. We collected \$72.19 and will send a check for \$200; the remainder will come from Outreach. Thank you for your generosity!

## Upcoming Events

**March 1, April 5 & May 3** – Blessings Thrift Sales

**March 8 & 15** – Lenten Dinner

**March 17** – Family Easter Event

**March 24** – Bring a Friend Sunday Breakfast

**April 11** – Hoagie Sale





# Zion Holy Week March 24 - 31, 2024

- ✠ **Palm Sunday**, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 am, Blessing of the Palms
- ✠ **Wednesday**, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm, Holden Evening Prayer
- ✠ **Maundy Thursday**, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm, Foot Washing, Communion, Stripping of the Altar
- ✠ **Good Friday**, March 29<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm, Good Friday Service
- ✠ **Holy Saturday**, March 30<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm Easter Vigil, Affirmation of Baptism, Holy Communion
- ✠ **Easter Sunday**, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 9:00 am, Celebration of Christ's Resurrection, Holy Communion



*Come Worship With Us!*



## **ATTENTION GRADUATING CONFIRMED ZION MEMBERS: CLASS OF 2024**

Before you know it graduation will be here! Please submit a photo with information on high school graduating from, where you will be attending school or what your future plans may be, major, parents' names and how you were involved with Zion. You may submit a photo now with more information to follow later to the church office. Thank you.

**Please welcome our new members** Brian & Karen Costenbader. May they be blessed by their commitment to God and their participation in this faith family.



# Zion Lenten Fish Dinner

**March 8 and 15**

4:00 PM to 6:00 PM or sell-out

Adult \$13.00 – Children up to age 10 \$7.00

Take-Outs Available



Menu includes Baked Haddock, Crab Cakes or Chicken Fingers, Mac & Cheese, Stewed Tomatoes, Cole Slaw and Dessert.

Combinations and ala carte are not available. Dinners may be pre-ordered on the website ([www.ziontamaqua.com](http://www.ziontamaqua.com)) or by calling 570-668-4451. Deadline to order dinners is **March 6<sup>th</sup> & March 13<sup>th</sup>**. Walk-ins welcome. Hope to see you there!

**Looking for a way you can help serve your church**, but don't have a lot of extra time? Are you able to commit to a half hour, on a day you will already be here?

We are looking for greeters to welcome people to the church on Sunday mornings, hand out bulletins, and answer questions from visitors. We would like to have enough people to make up at least 6 teams, with 2 people per team. Please text or call Brian Lawfer at 570-952-5966 for more information.



**Zion is on Instagram. Go to the website or Facebook for complete instructions or scan the QR code.**

# MENU

## Palm Sunday Bring a Friend Breakfast

MARCH 24, 2024

10:15 AM FOLLOWING.

THE PALM SUNDAY SERVICE

A FREEWILL OFFERING

WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Menu: SCRAMBLED EGGS, SAUSAGE OR BACON,  
HOME FRIES, TOAST AND OJ. INVITE A  
FRIEND - EVERYONE IS WELCOME!  
HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



# Save the Date – VBS June 17 – 21

In 2024 children will embark on another Adventure at “Camp Firelight”. June 17-21, 2024, from 5:30 - 8:30 pm.

Camp Firelight is a Summer Camp Adventure with God!

Surrounded by water, trees, and rolling hills, Camp Firelight is the perfect location for every Camper’s favorite summer activities! During each assembly session, Campers join first-time camp counselor Sam and Lu (short for Lumen), the lightning bug puppet, and learn to face their fears while trusting in God. Each day, Campers see Counselor Sam face new challenges, from as simple as leading Campers on a hike to as intimidating as meeting a new and wise nature expert. With the help of Lu the Lightning Bug and the Camp Counselor Guidebook, Counselor Sam and our Campers explore timeless Bible stories that show how Old and New Testament Campers trusted God in the face of their own fears and went on to do great things in God’s name.

Through these stories, this program will teach us about people in the Bible who experienced the gift of a trusting relationship with God. In addition, it will teach us to trust that God will go with us, lead the way, share wisdom, to give us peace, and spark joy as we celebrate the good news of Jesus in our own lives and in the lives of others. We will also learn ways we can connect with and put our trust in God whenever we are afraid, challenged, or called to do God’s work in the world and share the Good News of God’s love through Jesus Christ.

## Camp Callout:

Whenever I’m afraid I put my trust in You. Psalm 56:3

## Daily Firelight Focus:

Trust God to Go with Us!

Trust God to Lead the Way!

Trust God to Share Wisdom!

Trust God to Give us Peace!

Trust God to Spark Joy!





**Zion's 2024 Church Council officers:** Michael Haspe, President, Brian Lawfer, Vice-President, Ernie Henritzy, Secretary, Dave Gensure, Treasurer, and Ann Marie Hadesty, Financial Secretary. Other members of Council include: Judy Brennan, Arlene Derr, Glenn Fritzinger, Thomas Graham, Carol Hartung, Steve Ristila, Brittany Scalfani 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.

**P**lease 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.

Would you like to make a gift to our Capital Campaign today? Do you need an envelope for your gift? Blank envelopes can be found in the rear of the church on either side. Please just write your name and Capital Campaign on the envelope so we can give you credit; and place the envelope in the boxes found on the wall on either side at the back on the sanctuary. For information on our Capital Campaign, please visit our website at <http://www.ziontamaqua.com/capital-campaign/>



**Gebert Society** - If you know of someone who has remembered Zion in their will/estate with a gift (past and present), please contact the office with that information which will be used in the annual report. Names can be added to the Gebert Society at any time. Thank you.

Please Join Us!  
Saturday Worship – 5:30 pm  
Sundays  
Worship – 9:00 am  
Christian Education – 10:15 am

**DEADLINE:** All information for the **May 2024 issue of the "Herald"** is due at the church office no later than **Monday, April 22, 2024.** 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!

**Hospitalizations** - If you or someone you know is hospitalized, please call the church office at 668-2180. Due to HIPAA Law names are no longer published in the newspaper and we are not contacted by the hospital unless the patient requests it, when admitted, let them know you are a member of Zion Lutheran church. Zion Lutheran Church Lehigh Valley System Hospital Code is 356; If you are admitted to a hospital in the Lehigh Valley Hospital system (not St. Luke's/ Miner's) and you want our church and Pastor to be notified, provide Zion's Code # 356 when you provide admission information.



Office Hours ~  
Monday & Wednesday  
12:00 – 5:00 pm  
Tuesday & Thursday  
8:00 am – 1:00 pm  
Pastor's Office Hours ~  
Wednesday  
11:00 am – 5:00 pm

Please use door located on Mauch  
Chunk Street, ring bell

## Luke 24:5

The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen.

# MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES 2024

St. John's and Zion will once again hold combined Mid-Week Lenten Services at 7:00 pm. The service will follow the Holden Evening prayer from the ELW.

You don't want to miss it. Lent is such a sacred time in the church year. Let's walk these weeks together in faith.

February 28, 2024 - St. John's  
March 6, 2024 - Zion  
March 13, 2024 - St. John's  
March 20, 2024 - Zion  
March 27, 2024 - Individual Services

If Tamaqua school district has early dismissal or cancels school, the mid-week lent service - Wednesday night is cancelled.



## Easter Gifts

Easter is generally a time when gifts and memorials are presented. While we would welcome and appreciate a special gift to any of our funds most Easter gifts usually arrive as Endowment Fund, Capital Campaign Fund or Easter lilies. Please fill out the form below and return it to the Church office. **This Form must accompany your contributions so that the office knows if your memorial is to be placed in the Easter Sunday handout.**

Easter lily/ Endowment Fund/ Capital Campaign (Circle one)

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_ Or

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Lilies: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_



**Cost is \$9.00 per Lily. Endowment Gifts and other gifts can be any amount. Please return this form to the office no later than Monday, March 4, 2024. This is a firm deadline please have your orders in by the due date so that the lily order can be placed.**



Please continue to use your Boyer's key tag every time you shop in any Boyer's Markets. If you do not have a Boyer's tag, they are located in the Gathering room. Please use the swipe card, the receipt does not need to be turned in. Thank you for your participation in this program. Keep using those cards!

**Keep saving your Redner's receipts** and put them in the container in the Gathering room or mail them to the church office. Please note if you are turning in Redner's receipts please do not cut off the Save a tape portion of the receipt, this makes it invalid and we cannot turn them in, thank you and keep saving! **We just received a check from the Redner's Save-a-Tape program for \$163.11. Thank you and Keep saving those receipts!!**

**Sharing your story** - As part of an ongoing emphasis on Zion's impact, we'd like to share ways in which Zion has made a difference in the lives of its members and its community. Please respond to any **ONE** of these questions and include **your name** at the end. Send your response to [zionlcof@verizon.net](mailto:zionlcof@verizon.net) (subject line "Impact story" or Zion Lutheran, 101 North Greenwood St., Tamaqua, PA 18252 Attention: Impact

1. How has Zion made a difference in your life? OR
2. What impact has Zion had on your life the last 2 1/2 years? OR
3. What is your vision for the future of Zion's ministry? OR
4. How has serving in a Zion ministry made a difference in your life?



Do you like to clean? Some people really like to clean--honest! If you do, why not join the Cleaning Angel team? We are looking for about 2 or 3 more members to add to the team. Cleaning Angels are members of the congregation who each week clean the Sanctuary, Gathering Room and Library. When two people do that cleaning, it can take 2-3 hours. Being a Cleaning Angel is not intended to be a lifelong commitment and so we thank those who have served and "retired." That means there are openings in the cleaning schedule for other members of the congregation to step up

and help keep the church clean This is a great opportunity to serve your church. The hours are flexible and there's lots of great fellowship involved. Please contact any member of the Property Committee or Cleaning Sexton Kim Eckert or Parish Administrator Melody Gensure.



## *February Memorials*

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

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

In loving memory of family and friends by Bill and Lori Krell

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

In loving memory of Pastor's beloved mom, "Beauty" by Pastor, Jim and Annette

In memory of her father, Jasper Collura's, birthday February 18<sup>th</sup> by Ann Marie & David Hadesty & family

In honor of all the serving acolytes by Sharon and Art Connely

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

For the prosperity of our church in our hometown & community, Stacey Faust & Emily Stahler (Rust & Dust LLC)

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

In loving memory of Madeline Trakes by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Mehalko

In loving memory of Marion Klein by John & Carol Dietrich

In loving memory of Marion Klein by Gerry Zeigler

In loving memory of David Hadesty by John & Carol Dietrich

In loving memory of Madeline "Gram" Trakes by Sharon Haldeman

In loving memory of my husband, Gary from Beth

In loving memory of Arbutus "Beauty" White-Hargis by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Mehalko

In loving memory of the February 5<sup>th</sup> birthday of her brother, Carl Gerber by Marlene McLaughlin

In loving memory of Pastor Cindy's mother by Roxanne, Tiffany, Matthew and Kinsley

In loving memory of Arbutus "Beauty" White-Hargis by the Senior choir

In loving memory of Arbutus "Beauty" White-Hargis by Ells and Gail Davis

In loving memory of David & Gayle Hadesty by John & Carol Dietrich

In loving memory of John Leipold by John & Carol Dietrich

In loving memory of Arbutus "Beauty" White-Hargis by Sharon Haldeman

In loving memory of Pastor Cindy's mother by Roxanne, Tiffany, Matthew & Kinsley

In loving memory of Beauty White-Hargis by Elizabeth Mussoline

In loving memory of Marlin Tirpak From the estate

In loving memory of Fern Woodring on her 97<sup>th</sup> birthday February 14<sup>th</sup> Love, Her Family

In loving memory of Arbutus "Beauty" White-Hargis by Dave & Darlene Fetterman

In loving memory of Aunt Beauty by Richard & Robyn Trexler

In loving memory of Beauty White-Hargis by Ruth Foose

In loving memory of Beauty White-Hargis by Susan & Hugh Miller

In loving memory of Beauty White-Hargis by James Manzick & Anna Laychock

In loving memory of Madeline Trakes by Buck & Rose Derr

In loving memory of Madeline Trakes by Tim, Kristin, & Rayla Wirtz

In loving memory of Madeline Trakes by Frank Habosky

In loving memory of Madeline Trakes by Mary Kay & Pete Silkowski

In loving memory of Madeline Trakes by Mary Ann Gates

In loving memory Madeline Trakes by Linda & Al Barnisky

In loving memory of Madeline Trakes by Susan & Daniel Baddick

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

In loving memory of Madeline Gram Trakes Love, Kathy & Mike Miller

In loving memory of Madeline Gram Trakes Love, Michael, Sara & Noah

In loving memory of Madeline Gram Trakes Love, Samantha & Ollie Monck

In memory of John David Marshall, Gladys and Charles Long, Karen Long Miller and Carol Moyer  
Daryl & Jack Marshall

In loving memory of Ruth Elizabeth Wagner by Carol & Will Wagner

In loving memory of Madeline Trakes, Marion Klein, Leon Sassaman and Arbutus "Beauty" White-  
Hargis by Mark & Charlene Valentine

In honor of Gail & Bob Jones for their kindness by Dolly Christ

In loving memory of Pastor Cindy's mother, "Beauty" by Rochelle & Joe Evanousky

In loving memory of Beauty White by Jim & Jan McRoberts

In loving memory of Marlin Tirpak by Eilene Blumenthal

**DIAPER DEPOT FUND DONATIONS** are given to the Glory of God and

Donation to Diaper Depot from Daryl & Jack Marshall

Donation from Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lansford

Gift from Richard & Judith Ketz

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

In loving memory of Madeline Trakes by Bob & Terri Livingston

In loving memory of Arbutus "Beauty" White-Hargis by Bob & Terri Livingston

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

In loving memory of Larry Brennan Love, Judy & Sonia

**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FUND DONATIONS** are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of Arbutus "Beauty" White-Hargis by the Walter Weston Family



Artificial Christmas Trees: We are collecting artificial Christmas Trees for use at Vacation Bible School this summer. Contact Michael at [zionlutheraneducation@gmail.com](mailto:zionlutheraneducation@gmail.com). Thanks for your support of Vacation Bible School.

# Zion's Blessing Thrift

101 N. Greenwood Street, Tamaqua

**Friday, March 1**

**9:00 to 5:00 PM**



## **Items Available:**

**Clothing (*Newborn to Adult*)**  
**Coats / Jackets / Sweaters**  
**Dresses / Skirts / Hoodies**  
**Houseware Items / Books**

**Limited Take-Out Menu**  
**Something for Everyone!**

## **Prices:**

***Tall Kitchen Garbage Bag for Clothes: \$20***

***Other Items as Marked***

# Connect with your church!

Listen to Zion worship services on your phone.

Learn more by calling the number below.

It's free!



PhoneLiveStreaming

# 570-393-2180

A ministry of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Tamaqua, Pa.

[www.ziontamaqua.com](http://www.ziontamaqua.com)

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

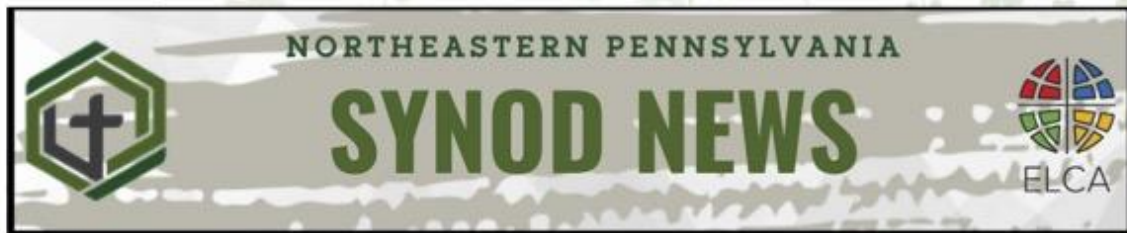


This year Daylight Savings Time will begin on Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget to set your clocks one hour ahead before you go to bed March 9<sup>th</sup>.



**I**nstead of giving up smoking, sweets, or something like that during Lent, why not give something else up, the most valuable thing you have--YOUR TIME! Volunteer to do something for your Church, your neighbor, your community. You might find that giving yourself brings back rewards that you just never imagined. And then, keep on doing it long after Lent, make it a lifestyle.





## *Cultivating Generosity*

Throughout the fall our congregations are often focused on stewardship and gratitude for the generosity of members. Folks provide stewardship talks, members complete commitment cards, and sermons are proclaimed to encourage generosity of time, talent and finances. But did you know that our ELCA Congregation and Synod Support Team offers training and recommendations on cultivating generosity?

This past fall, in partnership with the Lake Institute on Faith and Giving, stewardship leaders from eight congregations, representing four ELCA synods, came together for a training series called "Cultivating Generous Congregations" (CGC). Over seven weeks leaders from these eight congregations gathered online as a cohort with the Lake Institute's trained faculty and each other. Cultivating Generous Congregations maps the new landscape of religious giving and provides congregational teams with tools to build a culture of generosity unique to each congregation's needs, challenges, and opportunities. CGC explores theology, the role of adaptive leadership, fiscal transparency, and the importance of giver care, with action steps to impact the exploration of generosity and energize congregational generosity to take the significant and necessary steps to creating lasting cultural change.

Following the final session, the eight congregations received a year of access to the Lake Institute's numerous stewardship resources, as well as optional coaching to assist in the implementation of these practices. Mission Support funds the opportunity for congregations and leaders to learn from stewardship experts and one another and to grow together so that their local mission, and how God is growing generosity, can be told in more effective ways in today's culture.





**Atonement Lutheran Church**  
5 Wyomissing Blvd.,  
Wyomissing, PA 19610



Northeastern Pennsylvania SYNOD ASSEMBLY 2024

# **“HUNGRY FOR LIFE TOGETHER IN CHRIST”**

**Saturday, June 8, 8:30am-4:30pm**

**TWO ATTENDANCE OPTIONS FOR VOTING MEMBERS:**

In-person and online (Zoom)

**Registration: \$130 (same for both attendance options)**

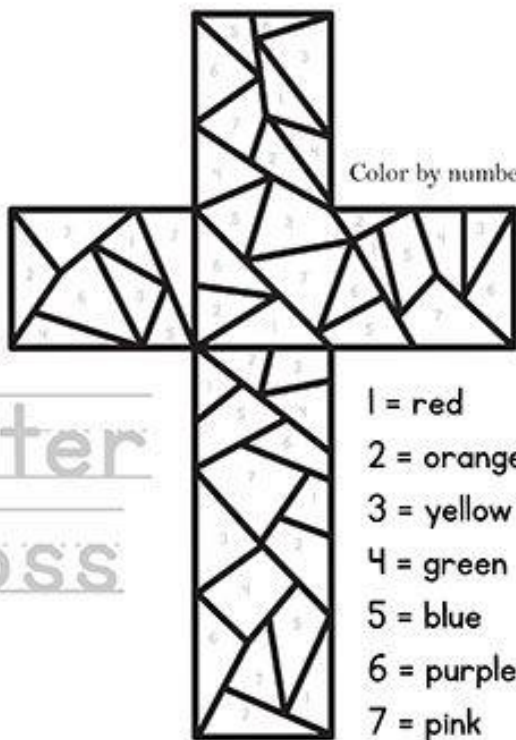
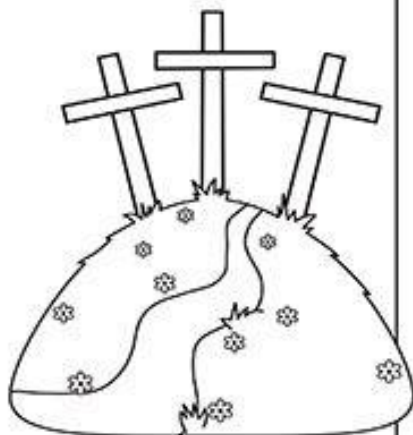
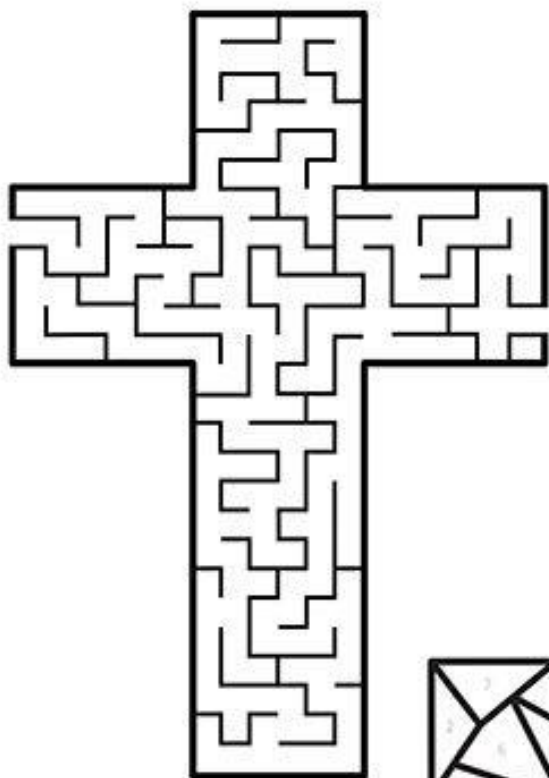
REGISTRATION OPENS FEBRUARY 16

Watch for email that day, with detailed info and registration link

*Info also posted that day on our synod website: [www.godslove.org](http://www.godslove.org)*

**Questions? Contact: Laurie Christman [laurie@nepssynod.org](mailto:laurie@nepssynod.org)**

# Easter Cross Maze



Easter  
cross

Images (c) Zip a Dee Doo Dah Designs, Holey's Clipart



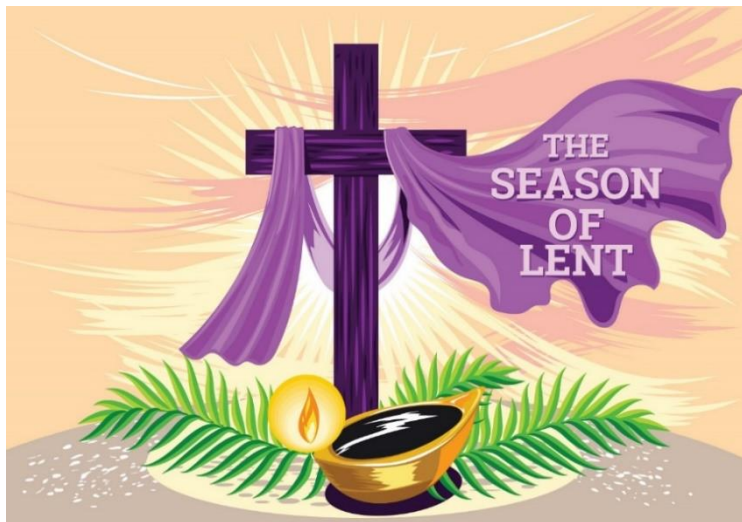
ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

101 N. Greenwood Street

Tamaqua, PA 18252

Return Service Requested

This Newsletter was prepared  
Especially for:



***March/ April  
2024  
Newsletter***