



# The Herald

*June/ July/ August 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.*

Dear Zion Family and friends,

We are quickly approaching “the lazy hazy crazy days of summer”, (some of us are old enough to remember that song) God continues to work in, with and through US. As Paul reminds us, in his letter to the Philippians 2:13. For it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for God’s good pleasure. I am sure God is pleased to see the many ministries that continue throughout the summer months. Our vacation bible school Camp Firelight is running from June 17<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup>. We so look forward to this every year. The music is outstanding as are the bible lessons. Please consider sharing this with any of the children that you know.



It is important to remind people that I have moved to half time here at Zion. I am also half time at Christ Conyngham. I am continuing to live in the Parsonage here in Tamaqua. This is a result of a shortage of Pastors in our Synod. There is a shortage of Pastors for the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America across the country. Very few Pastors in our synod serve one church. I believe that this is the wave of the future. I believe this can be a blessing for both churches. This may easily occur when more lay parishioners get involved in our ministries here. I want to assure everyone that a great deal of prayer went into this decision by council and me. My days here at Zion are Wednesday and Thursday...preaching for services Saturday and Sunday. My office hours will be on Wednesday mornings from 9:30-12:30. Special needs can call the office for any other meeting times. #570-668-2180. Please feel free to ask me any question in person or email. [Loupastor4@gmail.com](mailto:Loupastor4@gmail.com). I am confident as we move forward in faith, God’s abundant grace for all good things.....shows up. This has been my experience.

Please stay connected to our social media for all events here at the church. There are many summer activities that you won’t want to miss. Thank you all for your continued dedication to share the good news and getting your hands and feet moving for Christ. You are all a blessing to and for me. I pray your summer is peaceful AND fun. I look forward to seeing you in church.

Sincerely,  
Pastor Cindy

**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, June 7<sup>th</sup>, July 5<sup>th</sup> and August 2<sup>nd</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.

The Church office will be closed Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup> in Observance of Independence Day. Have a safe Holiday!



*Bear Creek Camp information is available in the Gathering Room. More information is available on their website at [bearcreekcamp.org](http://bearcreekcamp.org). Funds are available for those wanting to attend through our "campership fund".*

*Altar Flower Sponsors are needed for 2024 - The list for is on the bulletin board. The cost of the flowers are \$42.40, and individuals will be billed from the florist. 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!*



**Zion youth are headed to the ELCA Youth Gathering!** Three of our young members have committed to taking on New Orleans from July 16-20! Darien, Julia, and Elaina will be joining thousands of other young people from across the country as they affirm their faith, experience new perspectives, join in worship, and meet new people. Because of your help, our fundraisers, so far, have been successful. Also, a huge "thank you" goes out to Congregational Life for assisting us with the extra funding needed to secure the reservations. At least 50% of what was provided by Congregational Life, will be returned by the youth, through additional fundraisers. Of course, there will be additional expenses for meals and transportation, so we would like to invite you to join others from Zion in support of this adventure. Gifts can be made by clicking the "Giving" button on the Zion website and selecting the "Youth Trip" option or by placing your gift in an envelope placed in the offering plate marked "Youth Trip" Watch for more fundraisers coming! Thank you for your support!



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

A graphic titled "Upcoming Events" with a light beige background. The title is in a large, bold, blue serif font. Below the title is a list of events in a smaller, bold, blue sans-serif font. The background is decorated with various summer-themed illustrations: a pineapple, a beach ball, a blue bucket, a green watermelon slice, a blue and white striped apron, a pair of green sunglasses, a pair of orange sunglasses, a peach, a watermelon slice, and a popsicle.

**Upcoming Events**  
**June 1** – Summer Picnic  
**June 7, July 5 & August 2** – Blessings Thrift Shop  
**June 13** – Strawberry Social  
**June 17-21** – Vacation Bible School  
**July 14** – Church Clean-Up  
**July 18** – Ice Cream Social  
**August 8** – Hoagie Sale  
**August 19** – Newsletter Deadline  
**August 22** – Peach Social



**Congratulations to our 2024 Tamaqua High School graduate Espen Ansbach. Best Wishes!**

**On Sunday May 12, 2024 we recognized our graduating acolyte, Espen Ansbach who has served faithfully since seventh grade. We offer our thanks for his service and offer prayers for God’s blessing as his life continues to unfold after graduation.**

**Church Cleanup Day – Sunday, July 14 – 10 am – 1 pm.**

Your help is needed! It’s been some time since our beautiful church had a deep cleaning. If we work together, we can get the job done! Please consider lending a hand if you are able. There is sure to be good fellowship, & lots of laughs. Light snacks will be provided (We are Lutheran, we love to eat after all!) Tasks will be available for all cleaning abilities. Your help is appreciated! I hope to see you there - Michael Haspe, Council President



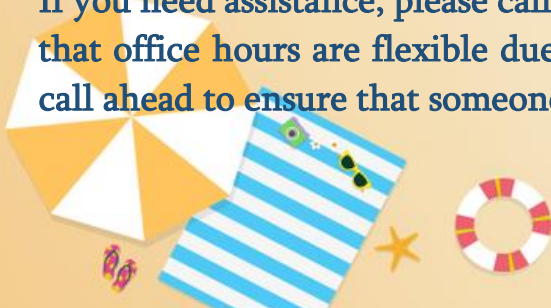
**Summer Office Hours**

**Monday & Wednesday 12:00 – 5:00 pm**

**Tuesday 8:00 am – 1:00 pm**

**Thursday & Friday – Closed**

**If you need assistance, please call and leave a message. Please note that office hours are flexible due to vacations and leave so please call ahead to ensure that someone will be in the office.**



## JULY ICE CREAM SOCIAL BENEFIT

Zion's Culinary Team is hosting an ice cream social on Thursday, July 18, 2024 from 4:00 to 7:00 pm or sell-out. All proceeds will go to the Tamaqua Fire Police. Ice Cream Sundays are \$5.00. Additional food items will be available for purchase. Please help spread the word. Let your friends, neighbors and relatives know about this special community event. Please contact Glenn at (484) 560-8211 or Mary Ruth at 570-668-4451 for more information. We hope to see you there!



**Mark your calendar!** Zion's Strawberry Festival will be held Thursday, June 13, 2024, from 4:00 until 6:00 pm or sell-out! There will be delicious Strawberry shortcake which includes cake and ice cream topped with strawberries. Cost – \$6.00. Other foods will be available for purchase. Please contact Glenn at (484) 560-8211 or Mary Ruth at 570-668-4451 for more information.

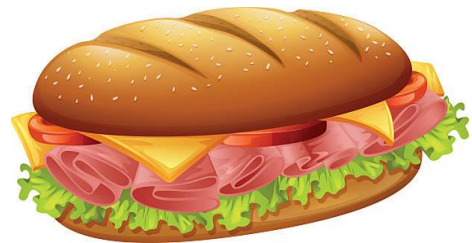
## Culinary Hoagie Sale

The Culinary Team is holding a hoagie sale.

Regular Hoagies are \$7 each. Order by

August 4<sup>th</sup>, at <https://www.ziontamaqua.com>

or by calling 570-668-4451. Pick up is Thursday, August 8<sup>th</sup> from noon until 3:00 pm. Thank you for your support!!





**Peach Social - Thursday, August 22, 2024**  
**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 Wednesday, August 21<sup>st</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!

**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.**



**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.



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

# 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!



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). Sign up online at [ziontamaqua.mycokesburyvbs.com](http://ziontamaqua.mycokesburyvbs.com). Thanks for your support of Vacation Bible School.



**Zion's 2024 Church Council officers:** Michael Haspe, President, Brian Lawfer, Vice-President, Ernie Henritzky, 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  
6:00 pm  
Sunday Worship  
9:00 am



**DEADLINE:** All information for the **September 2024 issue of the "Herald"** is due at the church office no later than **Monday, August 19, 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.



*Come join us for a Summer picnic June 1<sup>st</sup> following the Saturday service. Come enjoy some Picnic style food and some fellowship.*

Office Hours ~  
Monday & Wednesday  
12:00 – 5:00 pm  
Tuesday  
8:00 am – 1:00 pm  
Pastor's Office Hours ~  
Wednesday  
9:30 am – 12:30 pm

Please use door located on Mauch  
Chunk Street, ring bell

Genesis 1:11  
Then God said, "Let the  
earth put forth vegetation:  
plants yielding seed,  
and fruit trees of every  
kind on earth that  
bear fruit with the seed in  
it." And it was so.

# Zion's Blessing Thrift

101 N. Greenwood Street, Tamaqua

**Friday, June 7**  
**9:00 to 5:00 PM**

## **Items Available:**

**Clothing (Newborn to Adult)**

**Swimsuits / Shoes / Sandals**

**Books / Games / Toys**

**Purses / Housewares**

**Limited Take-Out Menu**

**Something for Everyone!**

## **Prices:**

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

**Dollar Items**

**Other Items as Marked**





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!

**We are collecting Redner's receipts.** Please 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!

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**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 [zioncof@verizon.net](mailto:zioncof@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.

## ***May Memorials***

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

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

In loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Carl W. Koch Sr. & Carl W. Koch Jr. by Carol, John, Jeff, & Johnny

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

In loving memory of dad, Chicot Ciccozzi and brother, Gary Boltz by Sheri Beltz

In loving memory of Gertrude Fritzingler & Emily Turrano by Glenn & Lorie Fritzingler

In loving memory of the birthday of her father, Clair Gerber by daughter, Marlene McLaughlin and family

In honor of the birthday of our son, Brock Costenbader by mom and dad

***MOTHERS DAY FLOWERS*** are given to the *Glory of God* and

In loving memory of his mother, Kathleen Valentine and her mother, Mary Dakes by Mr. and Mrs. Mark Valentine

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

For the prosperity of our church in our hometown & community by Stacey Faust & Emily Stahler

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

In loving memory of Dorothy (Rother) Epler for Mother's Day by daughters, Frances, Joan, and Carol

In loving memory of our mothers, Mary Koch & Dorothy Dietrich on Mother's Day by John & Carol Dietrich

In loving memory of Sam Alonge by Sharon Haldeman

In loving memory of her mother, Mary L. Koch on her birthday May 18<sup>th</sup> by John, Carol, Jeff & Johnny

In loving memory of the May 22<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary of Carl & Mary Koch & George & Bernice Althoff by John, Carol, Jeff & Johnny

In loving memory of the June 23<sup>rd</sup> birthday of Mrs. E. A. Follweiler from her children and their families by Jeanette Cappos

In loving memory of "Beauty" White Hargis by Karen and John Simodejka

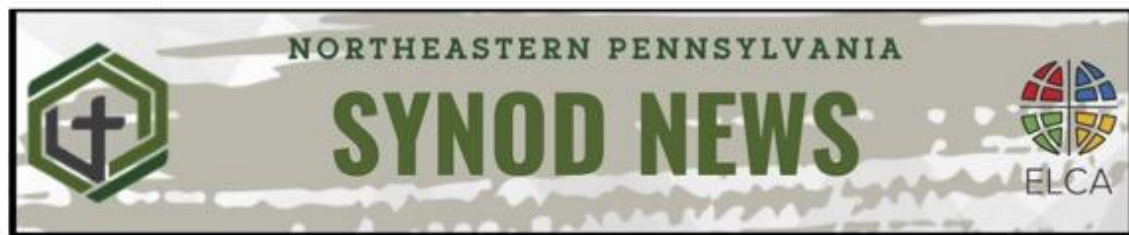
***ENDOWMENT FUND DONATIONS*** are given to the *Glory of God* and

In loving memory of Sammy Alonge by John & Nancy Ward

In loving memory of Sam Alonge by Richard & Vivian Bailey

**Altar Flower sponsors are needed for June 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>.**

**Please sign up on the church bulletin board.**



## Worship & Art: A Congregation's Journey

A few years ago, Calvary Lutheran Church, Laureldale, set out on a journey to be as inclusive as possible. This journey led the congregation to install state-of-the-art cameras (for streaming worship), three 85-inch monitors (for reading the liturgy and music), and a new sound system (that would enable everyone to hear and engage during worship). This was the beginning of the trek to become the congregation God was calling them to be!

The people of Calvary knew they could do more to engage in worship or worshipful experiences so they asked, "How can we engage more of our bodies in worship?" They pondered, brainstormed, and listed ways they could inclusively engage their bodies in worship and Christian life. They decided that creating together would align with their values of inclusivity. This came to fruition through their first collective art project. They began with a Lenten collage that created a dark scene with the tomb of Jesus. The congregation loved the project so much that they asked for more. The next project was for Easter, which included a prominent cross and a rainbow collage surrounding and illuminating the cross. The congregation is currently working on a Pentecost piece that includes a centralized bird erupting from rings of fire. The congregation is in conversation with an art organization to place their piece on display for the wider community to enjoy.



Lent



Easter



Follow Calvary Lutheran Church, Laureldale on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/calvarylutheranlaureldale> to stay up to date!

# New Outreach Ministry is Found at POP's Treasures

POP's Treasures was established by Prince of Peace Evangelical Church in Bangor to create a location where the community/congregants can donate gently used items /clothing. Presented in a "boutique style" store front where the visitors can see creative displays and purchase said items at a fair price.



The outpouring of community involvement has far exceeded our initial plan. The community supports us with items, and they also attend monthly during the sale days. We have had several new members at the church since the boutique was opened May of 2023. Our attendees support us in other posts on Facebook, letting the community at large know of our location. We are constantly reminded how they feel that this is a wonderful program. We also have individuals who come in our doors that ask to help volunteer.

We applied for and received a Witness and Service Ministry Team Grant to help with the costs to prepare a location on our property and purchase a connex container. The container is used to repurpose and store inventory. Items not sold at the boutique, are then stored until we have our spring or fall rummage sale. Items not sold there are donated to a clothing collection box and other organizations. Currently we utilize the 2 back rooms of the church, along with part of the fellowship hall during the days of our sale, which in total in 7 hours for both days.



While our program was set up to respond at the end of the fiscal year. As we hear of a need, we act in trying to make it happen if we can. It is difficult to say how many attend during the sale days. However, recently we provided a free clothing and houseware day that was attended by 200 individuals.

We currently have provided 3 meals at Safe Harbor, a transition shelter for the homeless. We have donated children's toys, and a stroller to the foster care program. There were also monetary donations to a local youth program, animal shelter, Portland food pantry (PUMP), and the purchase of animals from ELCA Good Gifts.

You may wonder if your congregations could do the same. Yes! If the organizers have the faith it will work, be willing to make changes and to realize that there are many paths to take to make it work. Success can be measured by outreach to the community and the programs it helps. We have been blessed beyond our wildest hopes and dreams. If you would like more information, please contact Jackie Horn at [baskets@epix.net](mailto:baskets@epix.net).

**\*\*Visit the synod website at [www. https://nepasynod.org/](https://nepasynod.org/) to find out how to apply for a Witness and Service Grant.**

ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

101 N. Greenwood Street

Tamaqua, PA 18252

Return Service Requested

This Newsletter was prepared  
Especially for:

*June/July/August  
2024 Newsletter*

*God Bless*



*...land that I love.*