

ZION'S HEAVENLY

Look for:

- *Worship Schedule
- *Acolyte Schedule
- *Music Schedule
- *Announcements
- *Youth Group News

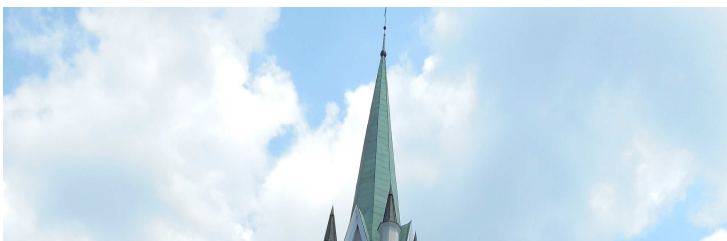


- *Exciting Events
- *Monthly Calendar of Events
- *Birthday Calendar
- *Synod News
- And Much More!**

HAPPENINGS



NEWSLETTER



*233 Years of worshipping the
Lord with each other....*

Photo by Gayle Mateyak

Come Worship with Us!

9:00am – Sunday Worship Service

(1st Sunday of the month Altar Communion)

10:15am – Sunday School

For All Ages

5:00pm – 1st & 3rd Saturday Night Worship Services

(1st Saturday Night of the month we will have communion)

As of April 2005,
Zion's Stone Church Lutheran Congregation and Zion's Stone Church United
Church of Christ Congregation enter into a shared ministry. Keeping both
heritages in the Sunday Worship Service each week.



CHURCH STAFF...



Pastor: Rev. Russell Campbell

Office Hours:

Wednesday and Thursday 10:00am – 4:00pm

Cell Phone # 610-737-2634

Pastor's Home Email: revarc@ptd.net

Pastor's Church Email: zionstch@ptd.net

Church Administrator/Treasurer:

Charlotte Fritz Office Hours:

Monday 12:00 noon to 3:00pm

Wednesday and Thursday 9:00am to 3:00pm

Charlotte's Office Email: zscofc@ptd.net

(Please use this email for information for Charlotte.)

Church Secretary:

Office Hours: Subject to Change

Brenda will be in the office from 8:00am – 12:00am Mon – Thurs.

Brenda Office Email: zscbrenda@ptd.net

**(Please use this email for all slide, newsletter
and any other information, for Brenda.)**



Church Office Phone Number:

570-386-5111 – When calling use:

prompt #2 for Pastor

prompt #3 for Brenda

prompt #4 for Charlotte

Check us out on Facebook!

Thanks to Sarah Martinez
for being our Facebook Coordinator!

Zion's Stone Website

www.zionstonechurch.org

Music Director/Organist:

Erin Zelinski – 570-205-3511

Card Care coordinator:

Nancy Meiser - 570-205-9267

Sexton(s):

Fred (& Donna) Gimbi - Home # 570-386-2888

Fred's Cell #570-573-7642

WORSHIP JANUARY 2023

Sunday, January 1, 2023 - Epiphany

w/ Holy Communion – Altar

9:00am - Worship Service

Sermon Title: “Response Time”

Isaiah 60:1-6 Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12

Sunday, January 8, 2023 – Baptism of Christ

9:00am – Worship Service

w/Young People’s Time and King’s Kids

Sermon Title: “*The Asterisk*”

Isaiah 42:1-9 Acts 10:34-43 Matthew 3:13-17

Sunday, January 15, 2023 – Second Epiphany

9:00am – Worship Service

Music Sunday w/Erin Zelinski

Isaiah 49:1-7 1Corinthians 1:1-9

Sunday, January 22, 2023 – Third Epiphany

9:00am – Worship Service

Sermon Title: “RSVP”

Isaiah 9:1-4 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 Matthew 4:12-23

Sunday, January 29, 2023 – Fourth Epiphany

9:00am – Worship Service

Sermon Title: “Blessed Are the Placemakers”

Micah 6:1-8 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 Matthew 5:1-12

BOARD MEETING



NOVEMBER 9, 2022

X Pastor Russel Campbell	X Nancy Meiser	X Paul Miller	X Sam Schaefer
X Charlotte Fritz	Blair Miller	X Gary Clemson	X Amanda Sassaman
X Scot Dietrich	X Dan Metzger	X Rick Zelinski	

(X) = Board Members present

Member(s) of the congregation – Bob Miller and Church Secretary Brenda Osenbach
Bob Miller provided an introduction to the Church Constitution and by-Laws as well as the history of specific articles and their purpose. Bob Miller also recommended the creation of a Board of Elders for preservation of the Church History. Bob Miller agreed to attend a special board meeting at the end of the month to continue this discussion with the board.

Pastor Russ Campbell – Opened meeting with prayer

Pastor's Report – Presented

Secretary Report – Review of 12 October 2022 Board Meeting Minutes. Accepted by Amanda Sassaman
2nd by Rick Zelinski

Treasurer's Report – Accepted by Gary Clemson / 2nd by Rick Zelinski

Committee Reports

Worship & Music – Piano tuning complete

Property – Well remediation – Well Contractor will pay for all expenses for remediation except for casing, bentonite, and stone backfilling. Plowing costs will be increasing due to fuel prices. Installation of plexi glass at windows above Narthex to remedy water infiltration was proposed. All board members agreed.

Finance – 2023 Budget presented to Board Members. Accepted by Gary Clemson/2nd Scot Dietrich.

Sunday School – Nothing to report

Youth Group – Next Meeting Sunday 13 November. **Outreach/Evangelism** – 12 November is the next New Ringgold Food Pantry distribution. Nursing Home donation – suggestions list to be provided prior to Thanksgiving. See attachment for meeting minutes.

Fund Raising – Pork & Sauerkraut Dinner will be on Saturday, 19 November. Help needed for Craft Fair 11 February 2023.

Personnel – Brenda Osenbach announced her Retirement as Church Secretary.

Safety/Security Committee – ADT on site for malfunctioning alarm.

Other Business – Directory portraits are postponed to 2023 – TBA

New Business – All board members present were asked if they were remaining on the board for 2023. Paul Miller will not be returning and Rick Zelinsky is undecided. All other members wish to remain as board members.

Pastor Russ Campbell – Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Next Church Board Meeting on Wednesday, 14 December 2022 @ 7pm

Meeting adjourned. Motion to accept by Paul Miller / 2nd by Scot Dietrich

Respectfully Submitted by Board Secretary, Amanda Sassaman

Please help the office staff be efficient by having all newsletter submittals emailed to the church office (or placed in the newsletter submittal boxes) by the newsletter deadline, the **Third Sunday** of each month.

If you would like your wedding announcement or if you have a loved one who has entered into eternal life, thank you messages, etc., please contact the office by the newsletter deadline or we may not be able to publish your information until the next month. *Thank You!*

ALTAR FLOWER & NEWSLETTER SPONSORSHIPS...

If you are interest in sponsoring altar flowers or the newsletter, please call the office at (570) 386-5111 prompt #3, before 12 pm on Tuesday. **Leave a message** with your telephone number and the exact wording you would like to see printed on the slides. You can also email the office. The newsletter is printed one time per month. Use the envelope in your packet marked bulletin. If you would like special wording placed on a slide please include that also with your \$20.00 newsletter donation.



Please do not put your altar flower request in the envelopes, because it may not be seen until it is too late.

YOU MUST CALL THE OFFICE

The Florist wants our orders by Wednesday of each week.



COST OF SPONSORSHIP:

ALTAR FLOWERS \$25.00

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO

ZION'S STONE CHURCH. THANK YOU!

ROSEBUD VASE: \$10.00

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER:\$20.00

Lectors are needed for every Sunday.

Please sign up in the Narthex. If you or someone you know would like to be a LECTOR ... New volunteers are always welcome.

Acolytes...Last year's class and current confirmation classes please sign up on the calendar in the Narthex. Two acolytes are needed for each Sunday. Please arrive by 8:50am to prepare.

CHURCH/AUDITORIUM FUNCTIONS ARE CURRENTLY NOT BEING SCHEDULED

DO YOU HAVE A NEW ADDRESS OR TELEPHONE

&/OR CELL PHONE NUMBER?


Please notify the office either through email (zscofc@ptd.net) or phone (570-386-5111) with your new information. This way we can keep in touch with you and provide you with important information regarding the church. Thank you!

(All the clip Art printed in this newsletter was taken from google clip art.)


2022 WORSHIP ATTENDANCE FIGURES...

November 5, 2022- 12
 November 6, 2022- 127
 November 13, 2022- 118
 November 19, 2022- cancel
 November 20, 2022- 102
 November 27, 2022- 100

December 3, 2022- 17
 December 4, 2022- 120
 December 11, 2022- 106
 December 17, 2022- 10
 December 18, 2022- 105
 December 24, 4pm-
 December 24, 7pm-
 December 25, 2022-



FINANCIAL REPORT



2022 NOVEMBER

Current Giving:

Total Income Budgeted for 2022-----\$ 214,743.41

Total Benevolence income for 2022 -----\$ 11,700.00

Total Income plus Benevolence ----- \$ 226,443.41

Monthly Income & Benevolence	Gain/ (Loss)	Weekly Budgeted Income & Benevolence
\$ 18, 141.20	(\$ 729.08)	(\$ 4,354.68 – per week) (\$ 18,870.28 – per month)

**Thank you for your continued support of
 Zion's Stone Church!**



No January Newsletter Sponsor



SPECIAL THANK YOU...

(The church receives thank you letters from other organizations that we support through Benevolence giving throughout the year.)

Dear Church Family...

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

To the Youth Group and Advisors for coming to our house and singing Christmas Carols. It really touched our hearts. Thank you, and God Bless. Robert and Loretta Beers.

Thank you to everyone who helped us with the gifts for the shut-ins and nursing homes. Our congregation is amazing and all of you have helped to make the holidays a little better for these people. If you donated items, bought gifts, baked cookies, worked to fill bags and deliver etc. Everything each one of you did is greatly appreciated. Thank you from the Outreach Committee.

Merry Christmas Zion's Staff... Please accept the enclosed contributions from the Zehner Family. Thank you for the many prayers and warm wishes for Mom and Dad. After spending nearly a month in the hospital, Mom is finally home. Dad has a winter cold, but he is excited to have Mom home. Hi to everyone. Have a Merry Christmas and a Joyous New Year. Thank you, Cindy Zehner.

THURSDAY MORNINGS



THURSDAY NIGHTS

w/The Rev. Russell Campbell



Bible Study

Will resume again

**Thursday, January 5, 2023
with the Old Testament study
of the book of Habakkuk**

*Morning Bible Study starting at 10:00am Jan.5, 2023
Evening Bible Study will start at 6:45pm Jan. 5, 2023*

(will notify to cancel if inclement weather)

But over the past 100 years, the amazement of Habakkuk 1:5 is once again appropriate: "Look among the nations! Observe! Be astonished! Wonder! Because I am doing something in your days — you would not believe if you were told." That was the way the Lord described His plan to raise up the Chaldeans to sweep across the Jewish nation. Habakkuk was appalled at the horror of such a judgment and registered his complaint before the Lord. God reiterated the finality of His declaration, saying, "For the vision is yet for the appointed time; it hastens toward the goal and it will not fail. Though it tarries, wait for it; for it will certainly come, it will not delay" (Habakkuk 2:3) In the case of the most important prophetic sign of all, the evidence is right before our eyes. The withered tree that did not bear fruit when Jesus was here 2,000 years ago has become tender and put forth new branches. We know that He is coming soon!



SATURDAY WORSHIP SERVICES...

**Worship Services for January 2023
January 7th at 5:00pm w/Holy Communion
January 21st at 5:00pm**



Thank you to our Director of Music
Erin Zelinski
for sharing her musical talents
with us during worship!



6:15 pm Thursdays



6:45pm Thursdays

Music Sunday!
Erin will be leading worship on Sunday, January 15, 2023



Baptism Congratulations Go To:

Joshua and Taylor Zehner on the baptism of their Daughter, Fallon Scott Zehner, who was born on July 22, 2022. Fallon was baptized on Sunday, Dec. 18th.



Sunday SCHOOL

ROOTED IN GOD'S WORD

Growing in Faith Together

*Many thanks to everyone who helped with and came to
The GREAT Come Back Christmas Party...
Great food, Great fellowship, Great time!!*

*There will be no Sunday school classes on:
December 25, 2022 and January 1, 2023.*

*We look forward to seeing all of your smiling faces on
January 8th when we'll be back in class studying God's word!*

*Did you miss the "King's Kids" in church on Dec. 11th? They're
back to singing the second Sunday of every month. Thank you to
our Sunday school teachers for reorganizing this group of SS
singers (Preschool-Grade 5).*

*Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess,
for he who promised is faithful. Hebrews 10:23*



YOUTH MINISTRY

December 11, 2022 - Youth Group Meeting Notes

Members Present: Bradyn Brothers, Madison Schock, Tyler Buchman, Madelyn Miller, Lizzy Davenport, Kyrsten Derr

New Members Present: Carmen & Lena

Advisors Present:

Joy Hauck, Karen Wood,
Dave & Adele Snyder,
Marianne Storch, Kyle Snyder
Charlotte & Darryl Fritz,

No secretary's report was given.
No treasurer's report was given.



We went Christmas Caroling on Dec. 11, 2022 from 1:00pm –8:00pm. We stopped at 10 different houses. Then went back to church and had a pizza party and enjoyed hot chocolate, cake and cookies.

New Business

- Poinsettias will be here on December 23. Youth Group members are asked, if able, to please come out to the church at 7:00pm to place the poinsettias around the church.
- Youth Group Movie Sleepover weekend – Friday, January 6, 7:00pm – Saturday, January 7, 2:00pm.

Next Youth Group meeting will be held on FRIDAY, January 6, 2023 at 7:00pm. Lizzy Davenport will have something for show and tell. Don't forget sleeping bags, air mattress, blankets, pillow, PJs, toiletry items, etc.

ZION'S COLORING CORNER



Zion's Stone Church

45 Cemetery Rd, New Ringgold, PA 17960

570-386-5111, extension 4



*The Fundraising Committee
Is Hosting a*

Winter Craft Fair

On

Sat., February 11, 2023.

*(Time to be announced at a
later date)*

There will be lots of vendors
and this is open to the
public!

There will be homemade
soups to purchase.

Snow Date:

Sat. February 18, 2023

Open to the Public &
Everyone is Welcome!!

Vendors will have items
for sale and they
include, but not limited
to...

Fabrics, Wreaths,
Decorations, Norwex,
Tastefully Simple,
Jewelry, Knitwear,
Color Street, Candles,
Soaps, Sugar Scrubs,
Drawings, Key Chains,
Paintings, Paparazzi &
Scentasy

2022 IS COMING TO AN **END**...



*Annual
Giving
Statements*

The New 2023 Offering Envelopes will be available on Sunday, Dec. 4 for pickup. Please pick up your offering envelopes, any family member, or shut-in/neighbor that can't get to the church. If you would like your offering envelopes mailed to you, please send the office a note with \$5.00 (to cover the cost of mailing them) and we will mail your offering envelopes to you. If you can't pick up the offering envelopes on a Saturday Night (during the Sat. night worship services) or Sunday Morning, you can pickup your offering envelopes during office hours.

**PLEASE THROW AWAY ANY UNUSED 2022 ENVELOPES
(after December 31, 2022!)**

**OFFERING ENVELOPE NUMBERS CHANGE YEAR TO YEAR!
ONLY USE 2023 envelopes in 2023! Thank You!**

2023

2022 YEAR END STATEMENTS

will be available after Jan. 15, 2023. Any offerings received after Jan. 1, 2023 will be credited to 2023 statements. If you are planning on sending an offering and you want it to be credited to 2022, please mail them in enough time to be
received by Dec. 31, 2022.

THANK YOU!!



The **Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program** opened November 1, 2022. LIHEAP helps families living on low incomes pay their heating bills in the form of a cash grant. Households in immediate danger of being without heat can also qualify for crisis grants. The cash grant is a one-time payment sent directly to the utility company/fuel provider to be credited on your bill. These grants range from \$500 to \$1,500 based on household size, income, and fuel type. Remember: This is a grant and does not have to be repaid and you can apply online at <https://www.dhs.pa.gov/Services/Assistance/Pages/LIHEAP.aspx>



Penn Northeast Conference UCC, 431 Delaware Ave., Palmerton, PA 18071

www.pnec.org 610-826-3113; 610-826-5464 FAX

Conference Minister, Rev. Dr. Bonnie Bates bonnieb@pnec.org

Rev. Christian Creyer christianc@pnec.org

Barbara Jennings barbaraj@pnec.org Patty Rehrig patty@pnec.org

SEND ARTICLES TO BE INCLUDED TO patty@pnec.org

Bonnie's Letter

Psalm 30:11 "You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy."

Dear friends,

We have had sad news about Alan Miller's passing. We have had sad news about others in our midst passing. We are in mourning, and it is good to mourn our losses together and to share our pain with one another. As you have read in the obituary notice that went out, Alan's family will greet visitors on January 5 beginning at 4 pm and his memorial service will be January 6 at 11 am, both at Jordan United Church of Christ, 1837 Church Road, Allentown. I hope some of you will be able to join us as we share our love and support with the family and as we celebrate Alan's life.

We are sad. We lament at the loss and the absence death causes in our lives. Yet, we know that those who have passed from this world, are now in the arms of our loving God, welcomed home into peace and joy. They are clothed with joy.

This doesn't make it any easier to say goodbye. This doesn't make it easier to breathe during the moments of pain and sadness. Yet, we are a resurrection people, a people of hope. During this Advent we have been waiting expectantly for the coming of the Christ Child. We are moving through the progressively shorter days, walking in the darkness, knowing that there is light ahead. That is our faith. That is what moves us and leads us from mourning and lament into joy.

I hope, my beloved, that you take the time to grieve, the time to mourn, the time to lament. I hope you take the breath of the God and inhale it into your being. I hope you will know, in your very bones, that God is walking this journey with you.

One of our lectionary readings for this week is from Isaiah 35. Verses 1-2a read, "The wilderness and the dry land will be glad, the desert will rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The prophet proclaims a time of renewal, refreshment, and resurrection.

This is what we need as well, especially when our hearts are weary or broken in sorrow and loss. Breathe in God's grace and joy. Believe in God's peace and hope. Know God's love. We do deeply miss Alan Miller and the others in our lives who have died, gone from us, but in the embrace of God. Pray for each other in this time. I am praying for, and with, you.

Blessings, Bonnie

SYNOD NEWS

NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD, ELCA



Merry Christmas

Dear Friends and Christ,

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Creator and from Jesus Christ! On behalf of the Northeastern PA Synod Staff and Bishop Christopher deForest we wish you the merriest Christmas and a blessed and fruitful new year!

This year the NEPA Synod accomplished a cornucopia of ministry in all corners of the NEPA territory. Your love for God in Christ fed the hungry, built relationships with the downtrodden and outcast, diapered babies, shared the love of God in Christ, and much more...

Christmas reminds us of the length God goes to build relationships with us. God comes all the way down to a dirty stable in Bethlehem... an unexpected, messy beginning for the Messiah. Jesus is exactly the Messiah we needed without understanding why we needed him.

Christmas is an opportunity to reflect on the ways God comes to us unexpectedly -- It's an opportunity to meditate on the reality that Christ comes to us as an infant, totally reliant on his parents... Christ comes in the most usual way, and yet he's the one foretold in the prophets of old, he saves the people from sin and death, and he keeps coming to us. Jesus comes to us in bread and wine, in baptism, through prayer and thanksgiving, and when we gather together around God's Word.

Continue to be the Body of Christ in the world. Keep serving, preaching, proclaiming, worshipping, and sharing the good news of what God has done for us!

Yours in Christ,
NEPA Synod Staff





HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Sylvie Hauck Amanda Hill Pat Lorah Rick Zelinski Johnny Hamm	3 Ronald Rega Jr Janice Steigerwalt	4	5	6 Amy Buchman Amy Hehn Dean Ruch	7 Kate Frank
8 Linda Schaeffer	9 Kathy Kromer	10	11 Marie Gursky Chad Weaver Amelia Ristila	12	13 Nadine Belsak	14 Debra Hill Brian Ruch Mary Troxell
15 Taylor Fritz	16	17 Gabriel Gustafson	18 Paul Greene	19	20 Chris Loughman	21 Nancy Osenbach Austin Troxell
22 Lizzy Lehman	23 Rick Johannides Kerry Gursky	24 Kris Bellhorn James W Kemmerer Janet Faix Anthony Ciavaglia JeanMarie Zehner	25 Ronald Troxell Karen Wood Susan Zeigler	26 Hunter Moyer	27 Lisa Sharpe	28
29 Mary Faenza	30 Pam Brubaker	31 Doris Kressley				

January Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00am w/HC No Sun School No Confirmation	2	3	4	5 10am/6:45pm Bible Study 6:15pm Bells 6:45pm Choir	6 7pm Yth Grp Movie Sleepover to Sat 2pm	7 5:00pm Worship Service w/HC
8 9:00 am Healing Service 10:15 Fund Mtg 10:15 SS 11:15 Confirmation	9 Pastor Russ Vacation 9-16	10	11	12 No Bible Study 6:15pm Bells 6:45pm Choir	13	14
15 9:00am Music Sunday 10:15am SS No Confirmation Newsletter Deadline	16	17	18 7:00pm Board Mtg	19 10am/6:45pm Bible Study 6:15pm Bells 6:45pm Choir	20	21 5:00pm Worship Service
22 9:00am Worship w/Installation of Board 10:15am SS 11:15 Confirmation	23	24	25	26 10am/6:45pm Bible Study 6:15pm Bells 6:45pm Choir	27	28
29 9:00am Worship 10:15am SS 11:15 Confirmation	30	31				