

ZION NEWS

Issue 3: April 2018



**Zion Evangelical
Lutheran Church**

*Connecting with God; Connecting
with others; Connecting others with God*

The Ministers of Zion: Every member of the congregation

The Rev. Janice Marie E. Lowden, Pastor

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A Note From The Council President, Adele King:

In February, the team leaders and Council liaisons to the ministry teams met to discuss some of the issues that are facing our congregation today. Led by Pastor JMe, the purpose of the meeting was to coordinate calendars and events, share ideas, and to determine ways to be supportive of one another.

It is said that "It takes a village" and certainly that is true.... we have many exciting activities planned in the coming months and there are many great ideas that people have expressed wanting to do that are not yet on the calendar. In order to make what is already planned successful and to make what are still ideas a reality, we are all going to have to come together and put into practice the work that God envisions for us: connecting others with God! If you have things you'd like to help plan or help lead, please let Millie Gundel know (717-898-2313) so that they can actually come to fruition!

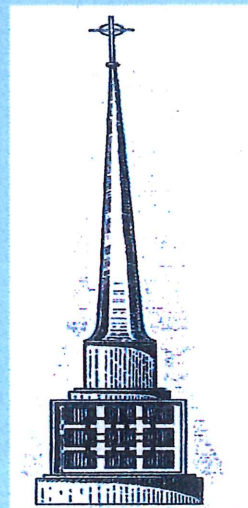
Many missional endeavors have been discussed among the ministry teams and team members have been challenged to incorporate evangelism into their 2018 goals. In addition, Vacation Bible School, activity grants available through Thrivent, and small group activities that are overseen by our Care Team have been topics of discussion among the ministry teams.

In case you're wondering about the results of the Congregational Vitality Survey that was completed by the congregation in January, stay tuned for more information about those results in the May newsletter.

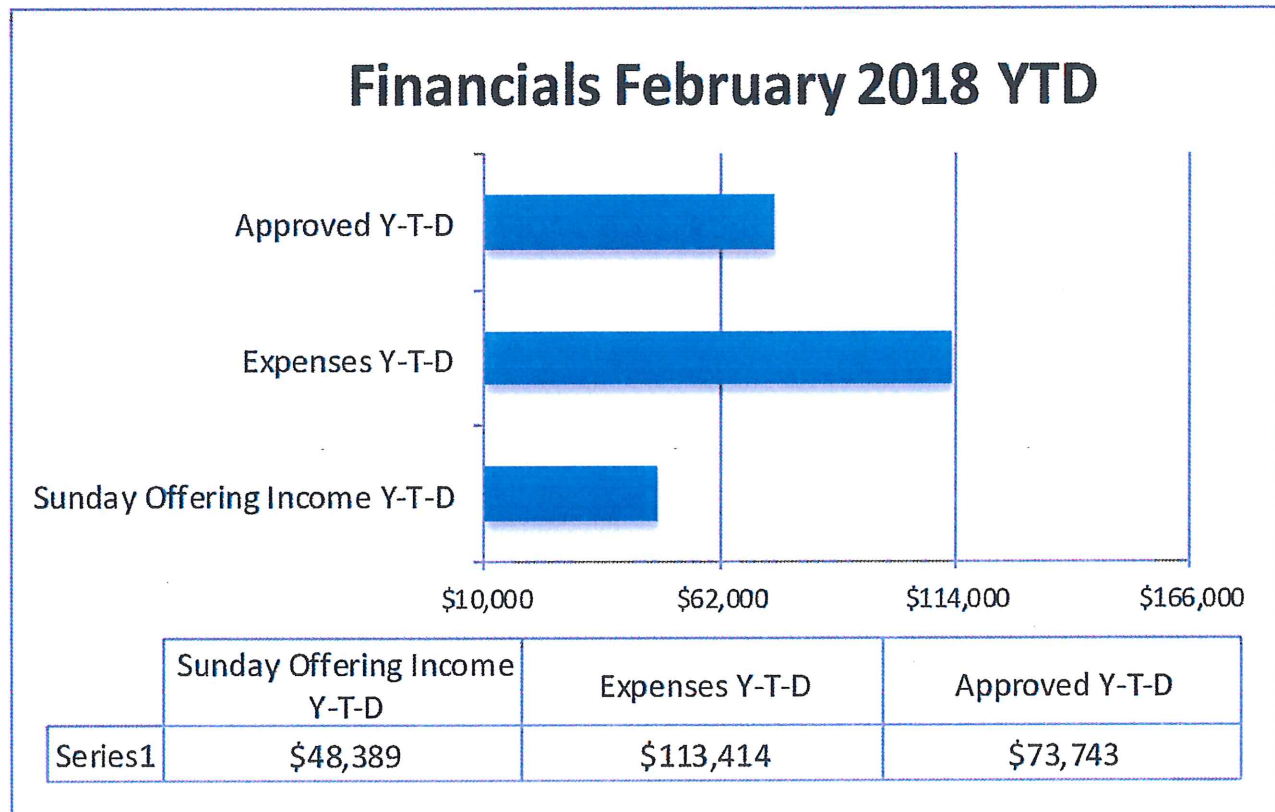
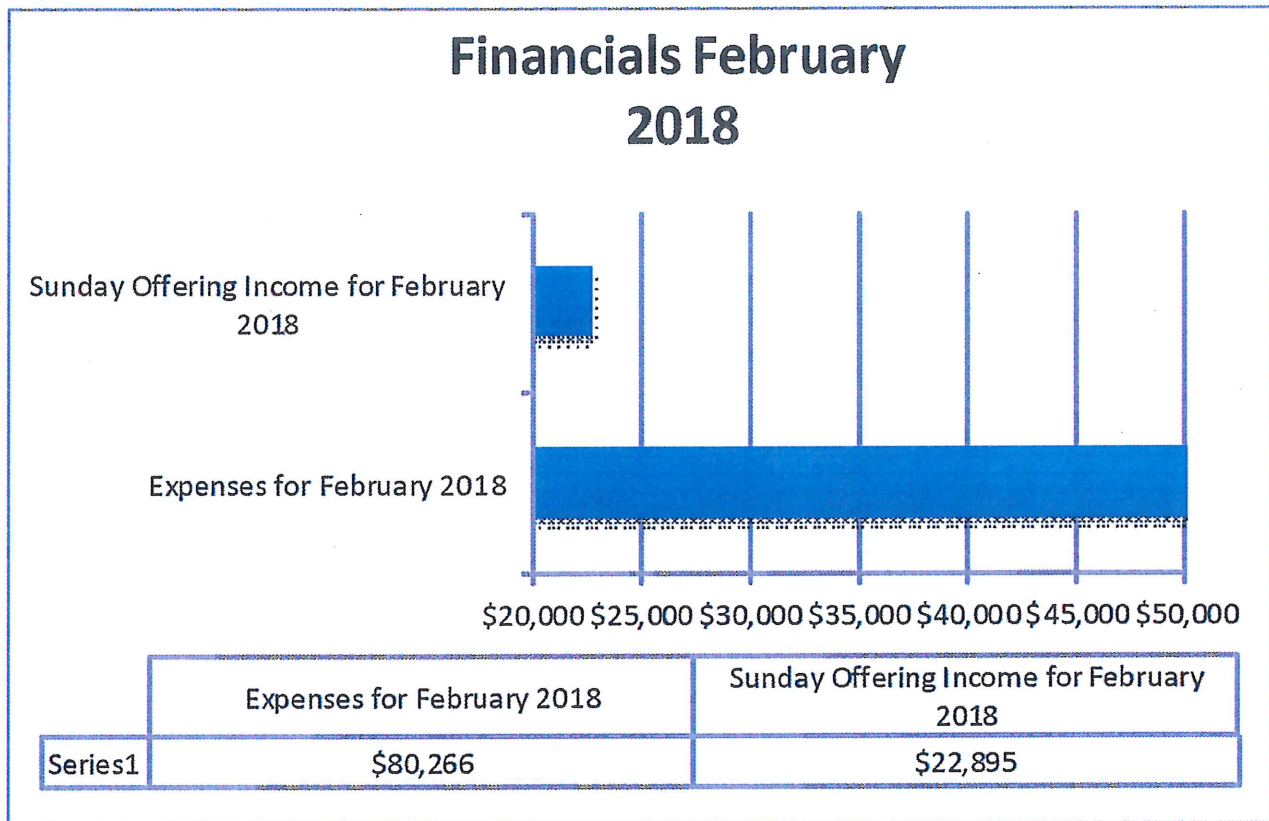
May you continue to seek ways to involve others in our worship and ask God's help in the growth of our church!

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♦ Financial Figures (February)



♦ Thrivent Financial Money Submitted by Jim Bear

Whether it is investments, life insurance, or some other product, there are many members of Zion who currently hold Thrivent products in their financial portfolio. One of the nice benefits of being a Thrivent member is that you have the ability to use monies that are available through Thrivent's Action Team program for projects and activities at the church.

It is my understanding that Zion has enough Thrivent members who could generate an additional \$50,000.00 in income to Zion that is available through the program. Many of our members have already filed for an Action Team project (2 per person are available each year at \$250.00 per request), and used the money for the following purposes:

Lisa Nelson: Kids Club for supplies and food

Randy Miller: Mission trip to Zion for supplies

Dave Wise: Nursery School celebration supplies

Linda Bear: Stephen Ministry for food and presenter remuneration

Jim Bear: Thursday evening meals for food

Cathy Benedict: Mom's House, Corner of Hope, ELCA World Hunger, wheelchair for Luther Acres, large print bibles, school supplies for Lancaster homeless, Alzheimer's memory walk, Heifer International

Millie Gundel: *Supplies for Comforters & Pantry Christmas gift bags*

As you can see, the types of projects are varied and can cover different needs. I am sure that, as a congregation, we can think of more projects where Thrivent money could be used (VBS is an example). Since we have trouble meeting our budget every year, the money available from Thrivent could provide additional much needed funds for our outreach programs.

Please give careful consideration when you are doing a project, and remember that this money is available for God's work at Zion.

To apply for a project, all you need to do is:

1. Go to the Thrivent web site.
2. Login to your accounts.
3. Page down until you see Thrivent Action Teams and select this option. Select Apply Now and follow the directions.

In addition, as a Thrivent member, please keep Zion in your thoughts as you designate any money available to you from their Thrivent Choice program.



THRIVENT
FINANCIAL®

♦ Fellowship, Community Meal

SIGHT & SOUND OUTING

Tickets are available for anyone who wants to go see "Jesus" at Sight & Sound on Friday, May 18 at 3 PM.

Sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex! Questions?

Contact Millie (717-898-2313)



LUNCH BUNCH

Thursday, April 26

11:30 AM at the Centerville Diner

EVERYONE IS WELCOME—

All ages, all genders, all life experiences!

Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex by Sunday, April 22.

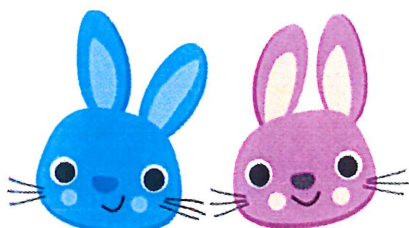
If you need a ride, please indicate that by your name!

Thursday Night Community Meal: April 12

Submitted by Linda Bear

In the Spirit of sharing our Easter joy with others, it is time to "hop" over to the bulletin board sign-up sheets in the narthex and add your name to the list of willing participants ready to share.

It is heart-warming to see our church family volunteers interacting with our guests by sharing smiles, laughter, and stories with them before the meal and sitting down with them during the meal itself. Please join us! All ages are welcome! Contact Connie Alsedek or Linda Bear with questions or concerns.



Happy Easter!



The sign-up sheets will be available now through Sunday, April 8, 2018.

♦ ZYM

WE ARE HOUSTON BOUND!

With grateful hearts, ZYM Gathering attendees are able to attend the tri-annual ELCA Gathering! Your generosity and over all support and love made this trip possible!

Christian teens in today's post Christian world are faced with daily barrages of busy, sometimes hectic schedules, busy family lives, preparing for their futures, as well as facing

adversity foreign to previous generations of young American Christians.



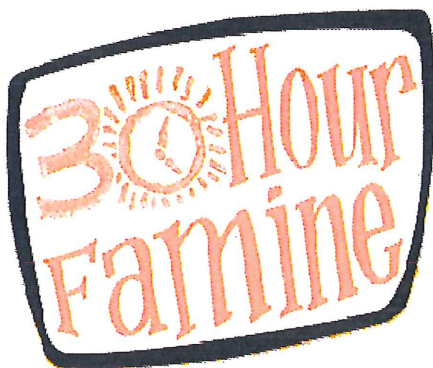
**2018
ELCA
YOUTH
GATHERING**

Our group to Houston flies out of BWI on June 26th at 10:30PM. We arrive in Houston after midnight and for the next week we will participate in servant events, learning initiatives, and large-group

play. Thousands will hear from Christian speakers, listen to up-beat and meaningful Christian music, and partake in Holy Communion with over 30 thousand fellow believers:

Please pray for our group. We need your continued prayers and support!

Those attending are: Christian and Evan Benedict, Quinn and Riley Klepper, Melissa Grube, Brad Green, Pastor JMe, and Jeff Engroff.



WE DID IT!

ZYM participated in the annual 30 Hour famine with the youth of Friedens Lutheran in early March. Over \$800.00 dollars was raised for hunger awareness and eradication!



ZYM CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 8	Escape Room — 6-8 PM
April 22	Zion — 6-8 PM
May 6	Zion — 6-8 PM
May 20	Zion — 6-8 PM
June 3	Mini-golf and Ice Cream — 6-8 PM
June 26-July 2	ELCA YOUTH GATHERING

ZYM continues to meet every Sunday morning for lessons focusing on bible stories and current events, as well as twice monthly on Sunday evenings for play, prayer, and conversation.



♦ Kids' Club/Faith Formation, VBS

KIDS' CLUB SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

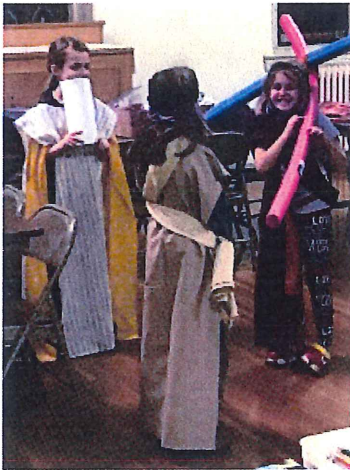
APRIL 1: Easter Activities

APRIL 8, 15, & 22: "God Is Amazing!"

**Note there will be no Children's Faith Formation on Easter Sunday, April 1)*

April 29—May 13: "Following Jesus"

May 20: Faith Formation Student, Parent, & Teacher End of Year Party



FAITH FORMATION



KIDS' CLUB WEDNESDAY SPRING SCHEDULE

April 4	5:30-7PM — Dinner & Activities
May 2	5:30-7PM — Dinner & Activities
June 6	5:30-7PM — Dinner & Activities



VBS 2018
MISSION IS POSSIBLE II
⇒ **JULY 9-12**
⇒ **6-8 PM Each Night**

♦ Living In The Word, Bible Study

Each Sunday morning, we are immersed in The Word of God. Not only do we wade into the written Word and spoken word through the reading of scriptures and the sermon, we also encounter the sung Word through the songs and hymns. The living Word comes to us as Jesus' body and blood through the bread and wine of Holy Communion and as the Holy Spirit through the water and promises of Holy Baptism.

What many Lutheran worshippers may not realize, life-long Lutheran or not, is that virtually every word of our traditional liturgy is taken from scripture. From the Confession to the Benediction at the end of the service, we are living in the Word through our worship. What we say, sing and hear on Sunday mornings is ALL bible-based.

Contemporary worship in the Lutheran setting is, also, focused on the Word. In addition to the Creed (when said) and the Lord's Prayer, elements of "contemporary worship" such as the Call to Worship and the Benediction may be drawn from scripture. For instance, the Call to Worship

may be the words of or based on a Psalm- often the Psalm appointed for the day.

Have you ever wondered why the words used in worship seem familiar? It's because you may have encountered them in the Holy Bible.

Here's a suggestion: Take a copy of the Sunday Bulletin home with you to reference during the week. As you read the Bible during your daily devotions, watch for scriptural phrases that occur in our liturgy. Another idea is to do a scripture search on various parts of the liturgy to find the sources of what we say or sing. In addition, watch for scriptural references in the hymns and songs we sing each week. Not only will you be living in the Word on Sundays but also throughout the week.

You may read the full series of articles on "Living in the Word" on the Zion website. Click on the "Worship" tab to access these and other informative articles on Lutheran worship.

Bible Study



April – May Adult Weekday Bible Study: Tuesdays at 9:30 AM

Beginning Tuesday, April 3rd, the weekday Bible study will focus on the readings appointed for the following Sunday (the Lectionary).

We'll discover the historical and scriptural background of each lesson as well as the common thematic threads in the four appointed readings (Old Testament, Psalm, New Testament, and Gospel).

Not only will this study provide insight into the scripture that will be read that week but also you will be prepared to listen to the readings (and the sermon) with greater understanding.

♦ Women of Zion, Flower Power, Property

WOMEN OF ZION

COMFORTER MINISTRY: Monday, April 9 at 9 AM in the kitchen

We are in need of “no longer used” but clean bed sheets that can be used to make comforters for the needy.

YARN MINISTRY: Sundays, April 15 at 1PM in the Parlor.

If you would like to learn how to knit or crochet, join us for lessons!

We even have supplies for you!



Flower Power Fundraiser For Pack 37

~Now Through May 1~

Want to support our church's charter Cub Scout group
Pack 37?!?

Think Spring...and purchase your flowers from the Pack!

Why buy flowers this way?!?

- ⇒ All orders will be shipped directly to you, so you won't have to coordinate pick-up or delivery.
- ⇒ Orders ship within 4-12 days of being submitted.
- ⇒ The pack retains 50% off all sales. Individual scouts who participate will receive 60% of that in their scout account to use for scouting activities/fees.
- ⇒ Power guarantees all plants they sell, so if they don't bloom, Flower Power will take care of you.
- ⇒ To order, simply go to:
http://www.flowerpowerfundraising.com/campaign?campaign_id=26125



PROPERTY WORK DAY

WHEN? Saturday, April 7 beginning at 8 AM

WHAT? Help clean up the church grounds for spring, including edging beds, and spreading any mulch left from the Easter garden, and perhaps repaint lines in the parking areas if the weather permits.

WHO? Anyone who wants to help!

QUESTIONS? Contact Jere Grube



♦ Food Pantry *Submitted by Diane Gerlach*

In February the pantry served 145 families of which 194 were children; 348 adults; 81 seniors for a total 623 persons served. Clients may visit the pantry once a week, either Monday or Wednesday...an average of 100 families visit the pantry each week.

“Thank you” to our Zion members who contributed 135 pounds of food items to the pantry during the month of February. “Thank you” to the Zion members who contributed financially to the pantry in February. Monetary contributions help the pantry to purchase food items not regularly donated as meats, eggs in addition to the purchase of “high demand” items as cereal, rice, peanut butter, jelly, canned vegetables, soups, and fruits. Financial contributions also allow the pantry to purchase food items at the Central Penn Food Bank at eighteen cents per pound.

Requested food items for March are: Natural peanut butter 18 oz., canned red beets 15 oz., canned carrots 15 oz., canned tomatoes 15 oz., Old Fashioned oatmeal.

During the month of February....Darrenkamps of Mount Joy donated 1,243 pounds of fresh produce to the pantry; Giant Mount Joy donated 343 pounds of bread and bakery items and 211 pounds of food items; Weis Market in Columbia donated 784 pounds of bread and bakery items; Weis Market

Stony Battery Road donated 508 bakery items and 177 pounds meat products; S. Clyde Weaver donated 97 pounds of bakery item; Stauffers of Rohrerstown donated 96 pounds of food items. The pantry purchased 8,060 pounds of food from the Central Penn Food Bank and 1,020 pounds from local grocery stores. The pantry received 2,889 pounds of free food items from Community Action Program. In addition to the above donations and purchases, 6,029 pounds came from the community which includes donations from the churches, schools, businesses, social and civic organizations and private individuals. February monthly total of pounds of food items purchased/donated was 19,785 pounds!!!

Sixty one volunteers gave 572 hours during the month of February. The pantry is a complete volunteer effort, operating with a full non-paid staff. **Many volunteers work “behind the scenes” on days other than “open” days of Monday and Wednesday. There are “pick-ups” of staples, fresh produce, and bakery items made throughout the week at the various businesses. In addition, there is an office staff documenting the donations received, clients served and completing other required reports for the Central Penn Food Bank, and registering new clients each week. We could not provide this important community service without our volun-**

teers! Our clients are very appreciative of the time the volunteers willingly give to serving with a true servant's heart and a smile! Currently, the Hempfield Area Food Pantry has over 300 families registered to receive food assistance. Ninety percent of the clients served at the pantry reside in the Hempfield School District. The remaining families reside in bordering communities. In addition to the clients who visit the pantry to select their food items, deliveries are made to senior citizens, and families who are unable to get to the pantry due to physical disabilities, lack of transportation, or those who no longer drive. All of our clients are very thankful and appreciative for the assistance they receive during this stressful and difficult economic time in their lives.

AND, the pantry would not be able to provide this program to the Hempfield residents without the outreach mission of Zion with the use of God's property. This mission is a witness of God's hands, feet, heart, and love in action!

Stop by to visit the community pantry “in action” any Monday or Wednesday morning or see Diane Gerlach for a tour. Thank you! Together we will feed the hungry!



♦ Connecting With Others

THANK YOU

From David & Linda Byers (Neighbors who live in Jim Vogel's old home)

...Thanks so much for the use of the kitchen and social room. We held our "Byers Birthday Bahamas Benefit Breakfast" to help raise fund to continue work where we served as missionaries. With the help of your facility, we were able to raise over \$1,000 that morning. We feel so blessed and grateful to continue to bless others.

From Cameron Thompson

...Thanks so much for the care package. It is always a highlight to get and to know that people are thinking of us. I have already eaten most of the snacks while getting ready for exams.

CONDOLENCES

...to Barb Wildasin & family on the death of her brother, George Doll, who died on February 22.

From Pastor JMe ...

Celebration of 30 Years of Ordination

The week of March 6th is one that will always hold a special place in my heart and memory. My thanks to all my Zion brothers and sisters who sent cards and notes of congratulations for this milestone in my life of ministry. Having the special celebration the following Sunday was a delight. I was so overwhelmed that I was virtually speechless, and that's rather unusual for me. Thanks to all who have donated towards a gift to the United Lutheran Seminary (formerly Lutheran Theological Seminary) at Gettysburg. Also, I am thrilled with my new watch engraved in honor of 30 years of ordination. Thank you for this meaningful gift.

It was wonderful to have Pastor Jorgensen with us for the celebration. The letter from Bishop Dunlop and Synod Secretary, Tom McKee, was very meaningful to me. I feel blessed to have served our Lord Jesus Christ in so many different ways and with so many wonderful people during the past 30 years.

I know that my husband, Bob, and Anne Rankin, our Parish Administrator, worked together without my knowledge to organize both the card flood of well wishes and the wonderful Sunday celebration on March 10th, and for this I am both humbled and grateful.

I saw a few people taking photographs on Sunday, March 10th. If you are able, would you please share them with me? Photos of significant events in life and ministry are always important to me.

♦ April Celebrations



1	Delaney Klepper	17	Drew Jarvie
4	Birgitte Chapman	17	Dylan Leibley
5	Doug Grow	17	Karen Rainar
8	Valerie Milholin	18	Ryan Provanzo
8	Sue Stathopulos	19	D.J. Korn
10	Joanne Grim	20	Karen Wright
10	Connie Grow	96	Ruth Albright*
13	Cameron Thompson	22	Amanda Grube
14	Stephanie Stitzel	22	Madison Pipkin
		22	Marvin Ruch
		25	Sara Bernhard
		25	Kyle Symonds
		26	Corrie Stream
		26	Bob Wildasin

28	Deb Overly
28	Tom Williams
28	Christopher Wright
29	Jonathan Wise
30	Natasha Novak
30	Pauline Weiksner

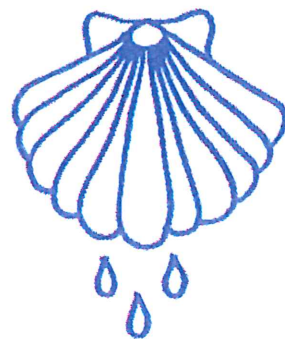
*90+ Birthday



HAPPY BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAY!

1	Ben Moore	12	Olivia Small
3	Marie Adams	13	Brenda Stover
3	Jim Bear	14	Ruth Janisewski
3	Jo Stone	15	Amelia Golihe
6	Jeanette Bomberger	16	Wayne Dearolf
7	Nancy Myers	17	Barb Williams
10	Renee Censier	18	Melodie Dearolf
10	Janet Musselman	20	Allison Korn
11	Cindy Blough	21	Floyd Weidler
12	Janet Bair	24	Chloe Traup
		25	Alaina DiNardi
		25	Dylan Gromen

27	Marvin Ruch
30	Joseph Auchey
30	Sarah Auchey



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

9	Rick & Nancy Price (35th)
15	Wilson & Jennifer Pipkin (29th)
16	Bob & JMe Lowden (35th)
25	Christopher & Tracie Andrew (20th)
25	Mitch & Vivian Gunzenhauser (37th)
26	Marvin & Wenda Ruch (38th)



Church Staff

The Rev. Janice Marie E. Lowden, Pastor, email: pastorjme@comcast.net—717-945-4585
Dennis Dezort, Director of Music & Worship Arts, email: dezort@comcast.net—717-203-9863
Jeff Engroff, Director of Children, Youth, & Family Ministries: jeffengroff@comcast.net—717-606-2266
Diane Gerlach, Ministry Assistant, email: dlsgerlach@comcast.net—717-682-2206
Anne Rankin, Parish Administrator, email: zionluth@comcast.net—717-945-4585
Dave Albin, Worship Technology Assistant, email: dcalbin@juno.com—717-333-4564
Brian Bourassa, Sexton (AM)
Tom Miller, Sexton (PM)

2018 Church Council

(Voting Members & Ministry Team Liaisons)

Adele King, President
Scott Hetrick, VP (Personnel)
Joel Janisewski (Outreach)
Dave Wise (Finance & Stewardship)
Dave Albin (Faith Formation)
Mark Coons (Ministry Support)
Mark Rosen (Worship & Music)
Riley Klepper (ZYM)

(2018 Nonvoting Members)

Ron Crawford, Financial Secretary
Phil Houseal, Assistant Financial Secretary
John Hay, Treasurer
Lisa Nelson, Assistant Treasurer
Brenda Stover, Secretary

Ministry Team Chairs

Judy Traup, Care Ministry
Melodie Dearolf, Social Outreach
John Hay, Finance
Dave Dumeyer, Personnel
Jere Grube, Property
Darrell Gerke, Stewardship
Jean Pretz, Worship & Music
Dolly Overly, Prayer Team
Open, Parish Fellowship

Hempfield Area Food Pantry Staff

Amos & Mellie Geib, Managers
David Bleil, Board President/Manager
Diane Gerlach, Vice-President
Roz Flannelly, Secretary
Lisa Bernhard, Treasurer
Diane Gerlach, Pantry Coordinator

Our purpose is to complete the work assigned to us by our Lord Jesus, to spread the good news about the wonderful grace of God with the Holy Spirit's guidance, and to love all.

May Newsletter Deadline: April 13

Worship: 8 AM & 10:30 AM

Faith Formation: 9:15 AM

Parish Admin. Normal Office Hours: Mon. - Fri: 9AM - 2 PM

Office assistance when the office is closed: 945-4585 (Anne's cell)

Pastoral emergencies: 940-3602 (Pastor JMe's cell)