

# ZION NEWS

Issue 4: June 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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## ***From the Pastor's Keyboard: "Say What?"***

How would you respond if someone contacts you and exclaims, "I have a wonderful opportunity for you!" Would you delete the email, or immediately hang up your phone? Would you consider the message SPAM or a scam? Most people would react negatively to the claim of the sender or caller, wouldn't they?

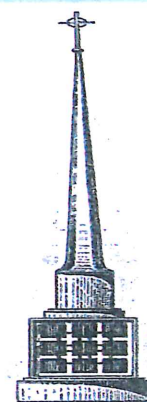
Here's another possible response: you'd request an explanation or a clarification of the "wonderful opportunity" and listen to the response. Then your decision would be based on greater knowledge of the veracity of the claim, right? So, how about this scenario: when you ask the person for more information, he/she responds, "to be specific, this wonderful opportunity is for you to talk about Jesus and his impact on your life to someone who doubts or doesn't believe." Now, how would you respond to the invitation?

The sad truth is that most Lutheran Christians would either say no (thank you) and end the conversation or give a multitude of reasons he or she wasn't able to talk "Jesus talk." As a result, the person really has missed a wonderful opportunity for putting personal faith into words. Actions of care and service are easy and comfortable for us Lutherans, but don't make us tell others about the Jesus we worship and why.

While serving my first congregation, a parishioner came to talk with me. She told me that when I started as their pastor, she was uncomfortable with all my "Jesus talk" outside of worship. Then she followed by explaining that she had gotten used to my "Jesus talk" over time. In fact, and to her surprise, she'd found herself talking about Jesus too, even outside the church building! She said, "I guess you rubbed off on me!" (Cont'd on pg. 2)

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## ♦ From the Pastor. (Cont'd), Mt. Gretna Events

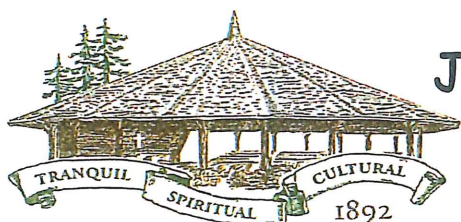
The lesson of this little story is two-fold:

- Her increased ability to share her faith had nothing to do with me, her pastor. It had everything to do with the work of the Holy Spirit within her to bring her faith to greater maturity.
- Being in a community of faith where members are actively talking "Jesus talk" or sharing their faith in Jesus is an important means of spiritual growth for the entire community.

Talking about life and faith affects both the speaker and the listener. The speaker becomes more comfortable with and more confident about sharing faith. The listener's faith is bolstered in hearing faith testimonies of others. The listener becomes more comfortable when others use "Jesus talk," even out-

side of the church. The listener has found a model or teacher of faith-sharing. Most important, the Holy Spirit works within these faith conversations to encourage the listener to share his faith, also. This process may take time and lots of practice, but the more we share our individual faith lives with others, the greater our witness as a congregation will be to the community around us.

We have a wonderful opportunity as a congregation to encourage one another to share faith through our "Jesus talk" of love, forgiveness, acceptance and hope. At the end of our services we say, "We will!" in response to the commissioning to "Go share the Gospel." Let's truly mean what we say.



**Mt. Gretna Campmeeting**

LISTED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

### Ecumenical Worship

**Services: Fridays at 7 PM**

June 1: "God is...Surprising"

Pastor Jim Goudie

June 8: "God is...looking for

Exorcists"

Rev. Dr. Stephen McKinney-Whitaker

June 15: "God is...Full of  
Grace & Truth"

Pastor John Ludwig, Jr.

June 22: "God is...In Control"

Pastor Brian Messler

June 29: "God is...Therefore  
We Are"

Rev. Holly MillerShank

## June Events At Mt. Gretna Tabernacle

### LANCASTER MENNONITE CHILDREN'S CHOIR

**Sunday, June 10  
7:00 pm**

*150 voices in grades 2-12 will perform  
a repertoire reflecting musical  
diversity of the church.*



### ANDY ROBERTS & THE JAZZ QUARTET

**Sunday, June 17  
7:00 pm**

*Mt. Gretna's own will praise God with their  
own improvisational spiritual jazz stylings.*



### SILVER, WOOD AND IVORY

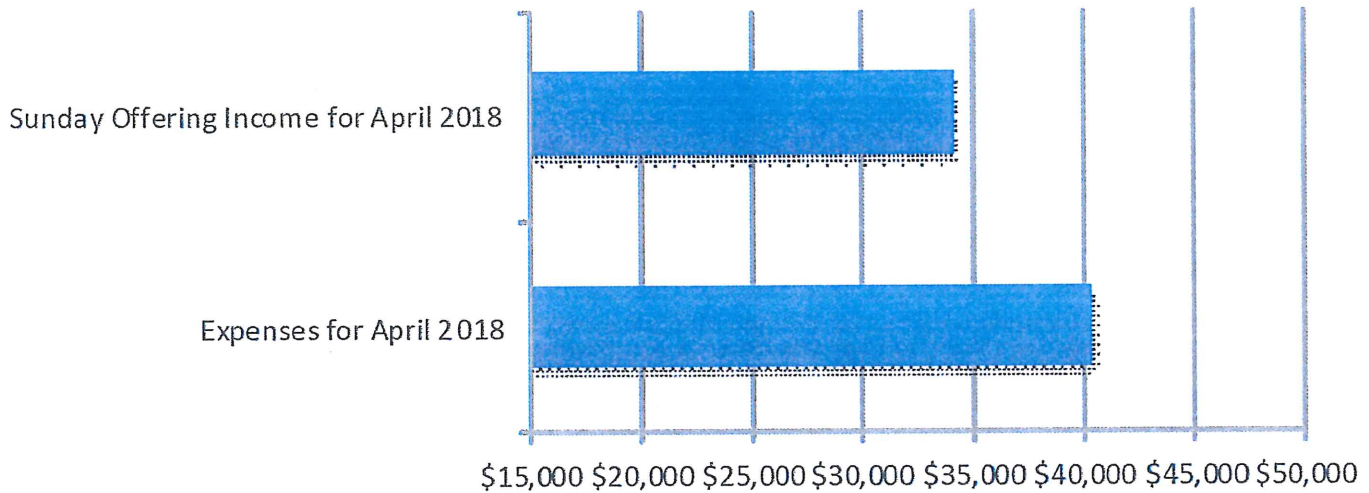
**Sunday, June 24  
7:00 pm**

*Tracy Dietrich and Cindy Wittenberg  
transform music into a heavenly experience.*



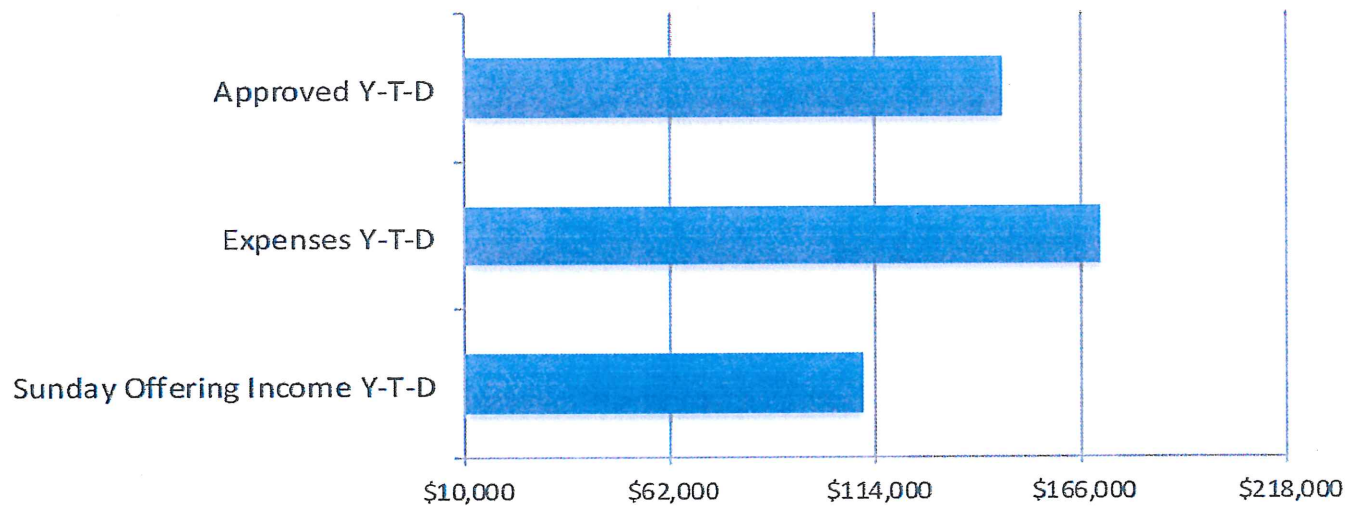
## ♦ Financial Figures (April)

### Financials April 2018



	Expenses for April 2018	Sunday Offering Income for April 2018
Series1	\$40,443	\$34,209

### Financials April 2018 YTD



	Sunday Offering Income Y-T-D	Expenses Y-T-D	Approved Y-T-D
Series1	\$110,628	\$171,400	\$146,052



## ♦ Council Update *Submitted by Adele King*

At the April Council meeting, Pastor Jorgensen (Assistant to the Bishop) reported on the results of the congregational vitality survey that was taken in January. It is difficult to explain the results from the survey in just a few words, however, some positive points to highlight include the fact that we see ourselves as a positive force in the community, we have a real presence of God in our daily lives, and most initiatives are started by the people within the congregation.

Conversely, it is evident that while there are these positive aspects of the ministry at Zion, we are also facing many challenges; there is an underlying tension in our social climate that seems to weave itself through a variety of aspects of what we do and how we do what we do it.

Because of these points, we are currently a viable congregation, but we are not sustainable or vital for the long run. To address this reality, Pastor Jorgensen suggested that we set up a team of 6-8 members to work with the synod on becoming a healthy congregation. We will need to focus on our relationship with God and with each other. We will need to rely on scripture and prayer and we all must be willing to adapt and change. Pastor Jorgensen assured us that God is not done with us!! Similar to how he met with the Council, Pastor Jorgensen has also met with the ministry

team leaders to review the survey with them.

The search for a new Director of Music and Worship Arts is going well; to date, we have received 33 applicants. The Team met on May 14th to select which of those applicants to follow up with and to potentially interview.

The Property Team is in the process of replacing 4 road signs advertising our church and continues to look into other improvements to our church building.

Jeff Engroff reports that planning for VBS is going well and will be held July 9-12 from 6-8 PM each night. If you are interested in helping, please let him know.

You should be aware that we have, since Sept., 2017, spent \$61,000 from the Betty Lou Hoffman funds. We thank God for her generosity and hope you will think of her example and remember the church when you are doing your own estate planning.

Please remember to continuously and intentionally think evangelically---spread the good news of our Lord to all that you can, by words and actions. Pray for your Council as we strive to move this church forward.





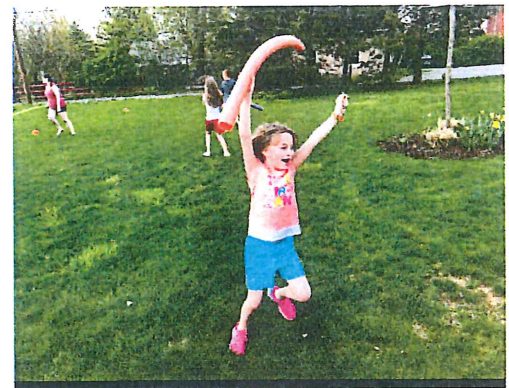
## ♦ Kids' Club, Rally Day, VBS

### KIDS' CLUB SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

Kids' Club Sunday will not meet during the summer months. The children, parents, and teachers celebrated a year of faith catching with a end of year party held in Zion's Connection Zone. Zion has a group of dedicated teachers who give tirelessly each week helping our young children grasp Biblical text, concepts and the basics of Lutheran theology by being a AAA (Authentic, Affirming, and Available) adult! Way to go! Thank you for your dedication and commitment to one of the most important ministries of God's church!

### KIDS' CLUB WEDNESDAY

Kids' Club Children's Ministry will meet Wednesday June 6 before taking a break during the summer months. This important ministry is geared for all Pre-K thru grade 5 children in our community. There is nothing like Kids' Club being offered by other local congregations! Get the word out! Kids' Club is an exciting ministry for children! .



### WHAT IS KIDS' CLUB ANYWAY?!?

Kids' Club meets the first Wednesday of every month from 5:30-7PM. A family meal is offered along with pre planned, topical conversations at (Parent Café) for the parents, while the children spend time learning, playing, and creating around a particular Bible theme or story.

### VBS! July 9-12

***"Our Mission Is Possible 2!"***

ALL children age Pre K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are welcomed and encouraged to bring friends!

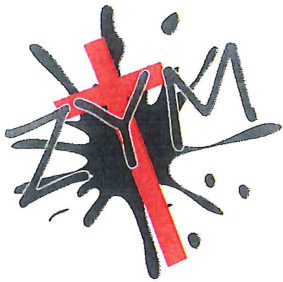
Registration will be available on Zion's webpage starting June 3<sup>rd</sup>!

***Want to help?*** VBS 2018 is in need of volunteer staff! Call Jeff at the church office to sign up or answer questions!





## ♦ ZYM, Wired Word, Bible Study



⇒ Graduate Recognition on **June 3<sup>rd</sup>** at both services

- Ian Flood, Quinn Klepper, & Christian Benedict will be honored and presented with a gift.

⇒ ZYM Summer Wrap Up!

**June 3<sup>rd</sup>** we will meet at Scoops at 12:23PM for lunch and a round of mini golf!

- ⇒ ZYM is prepared to travel to Houston to attend the tri-annual ELCA YOUTH GATHERING! We will post pics and videos daily on Zion's Facebook page. Follow us and follow the fun and excitement of this truly faith affirming and life changing event!
- ⇒ *There will be a time offered to pray for the group on the Sunday prior to our departure.* The group flies out of Baltimore on Tues. June 26<sup>th</sup> and arrives back in Baltimore late evening Sun., July 2. Thank you all for your loving support and prayers!



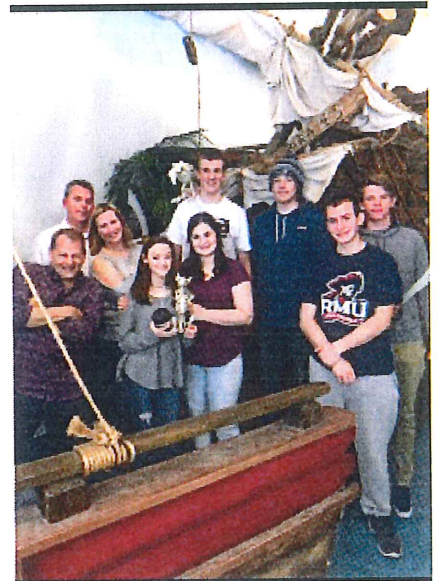
### Bible Study



The Tuesday morning bible study will continue through June.

All are welcome to come!

9:30-11 AM in the Parlor



The Wired Word Sunday School Class will be meeting thru the summer. We invite all adults and senior high students to join us as we continue to view the weekly news from a Christian perspective. Barbara Gerke, Dave Dumeyer, Dave Albin, and others will lead the class discussion as we are challenged to understand our world from this perspective. Although details have not been finalized at this time beginning in June there will be teen or adult supervision for children whose parents might wish to join the group.



## ♦ Sharing Our Faith, Usher Help

Share  
Your  
Faith!

*Our daughter, Jennifer, was recently diagnosed with ALS or Lou Gehrig's disease.*

*When life throws a curve ball, something that feels like a kick in the gut, I lean on Jesus and trust in His promise to be with us always. He sent the Holy Spirit to empower us to face whatever is coming down the road.*

*I thank God for our church family, friends, and loved ones who are praying and lifting us up.*

*Having faith, trust, hope, and love will get us through.*

*-Donna Dumeyer*

Faith  
is not hoping  
God can  
it is knowing  
He **Will**

*As teachers of the youngest children in Sunday School, our goal has been to provide stories about Jesus so that He might become their friend! Our two children this year, Colton Bear (4) and Ruth Janisewski (5), are happy to share their faith about their friend, Jesus.*

- \* Jesus is kind.
- \* Jesus loves us.
- \* Jesus takes care of us.
- \* Jesus loves the children.
- \* Jesus is the Good Shepherd.
- \* Jesus hears our prayers.
- \* Jesus says, "Love one another."
- \* Jesus died for us.
- \* Jesus is the Son of God.
- \* Jesus heals people.



*-Submitted by Millie Gundel & Joanne Grim on behalf of Ruthie & Colton*

### USHERS NEEDED

We are looking for a volunteer to fill a vacancy and serve as an usher on John Hay's usher team for the 10:30 AM worship service. Each team serves one Sunday every five weeks.

If you are interested, please contact the church office or Dave Wise, Usher Coordinator, at 717-898-2169 or [davewise47@gmail.com](mailto:davewise47@gmail.com). Thank you



## ♦ Community Meal, Rally Day, Women of Zion

### COMMUNITY MEAL

We give thanks to the Parlor Sunday School Class members who have graciously offered to prepare and serve the upcoming community meal scheduled for Thursday, June 14, 2018 at 5:00 PM. They will be serving lasagna, salad, bread, and dessert.



Remember to invite your friends and neighbors in our community to enjoy a good meal and a good time. Since all the volunteers are already in place, there will not be a sign-up sheet available for this event.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Donna Dumeyer.

**God's work.  
Our hands.**



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

**Rally Day 2018 will be  
Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup>**

*"God's work, Our hands"*

Stay tuned for upcoming information! Mark the date on your calendars!



### WOMEN OF ZION

The regularly scheduled meetings of the comforter and yarn ministries will not gather during the summer because of vacations and other summer activities. We may, of course, have a "pop-up" session, if the need arises!

WOZ will not be filling Christmas gift bags for the Food Pantry children this year. However, there is still a need for handmade hats and scarves. Please place them in the WOZ bin.

Please have a wonderful summer....wherever you are and whatever you do! In the fall, we will return to our service projects and social events. Watch the newsletter and bulletins for announcements of times and places.

*And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28*



## ♦ Food Pantry *Submitted by Diane Gerlach*

In April the pantry served 145 families of which 188 were children; 358 adults; 78 seniors for a total 624 persons served. Clients may visit the pantry once a week, either Monday or Wednesday...an average of 75-100 families visit the pantry each week.

**"Thank you" to our Zion members who contributed 44 pounds of food items to the pantry during the month of April.** "Thank you" to the Zion members who continue to contribute financially to the pantry. 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 once a month at greatly reduced prices.

**Requested food items for June are: 24 oz. cans spaghetti sauce, cereal, canned pineapple, 18 oz. strawberry jelly, boxed pasta, and chunky peanut butter**

**During the month of April....Darrenkamps of Mount Joy donated 2,088 pounds of fresh produce to the pantry; Giant Mount Joy donated 509 pounds of bread and bakery items and 595 pounds of food items; Weis Market in Columbia donated 590 pounds of bread and bakery items; Weis Market**

**Stony Battery Road donated 467 bakery items and 211 pounds meat products; S. Clyde Weaver donated 121 pounds of bakery item; Stauffers of Rohrerstown donated 46 pounds of food items. The pantry purchased 5,209 pounds of food from the Central Penn Food Bank and 1,053 pounds from local grocery stores. The pantry received 2,546 pounds of free food items from Community Action Program. In addition to the above donations and purchases, 6,069 pounds came from the community which includes donations from the churches, schools, businesses, social and civic organizations and private individuals. April monthly total of pounds of food items purchased/donated was 16,675 pounds!!!**

**Sixty seven volunteers gave 693 hours during the month of April.** 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, Fellowship

Dear Zion Lutheran Church,

Thank you, people of Zion, especially those who helped lead worship [on May 6]. You gave me a warm welcome and made it easy for me to do what I was called to do here.

In the Love of Christ, Chaplain Dione Klepetka

Dear Zion Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for letting the Classical Guitar Society of Lancaster use a space in the church for our monthly meetings. We are very gracious for your generous support and for allowing us to hold out members' concert. Our deepest appreciation, The Classical Guitar Society.

Dear Zion Lutheran Church,

I am Ambrose Olko and am filled with joy and happiness to share with you in this special time on behalf of Brenda who is at school. We are doing well in health. Thank you so much for the nice card for Easter and little booklet for the Lenten season. I am happy to tell you that the holy week ended well and Easter celebration was successful. We hope that you also enjoyed the Easter season. Our family is so happy for you; Zion is special to our family. Bye Bye.

Thank you to Cathy Benedict, Nancy Myers, Millie Gundel, Randy Miller, and Dottie Wauls for assisting with the Celebration of Life service and luncheon for the family of Margaret Fatta on May 10.

### SUMMER EVENTS

⇒ **June 10**

Dust off your bikes or strollers, hiking shoes or sneakers.....this activity is

on the Northwest Rail Trail!

- \* Walk or bike on the rail trail from Columbia to Marietta or further to Bainbridge! (Of course, you may go as far as you are able!)
- \* Meet at the church at 1 PM if you want to load bikes on Jeff's truck or you can meet the group at Columbia Crossings (at the end of Walnut St. along the river at 1:30 PM.

[Visit <http://www.susquehannaheritage.org/>

explore-2/columbia-crossing-river-trails-center/ for more information about start location.]

Contact Jeff Engroff with your questions.



⇒ **July 29: 5th Sunday Service at Rapho Twp. Park**

Come worship at 10:00...we'll sing favorite hymns and enjoy a picnic afterward at the park (960 Strickler Rd., Mount Joy)

- ⇒ There will be a sign-up sheet for the picnic.
- ⇒ There's a playground, a baseball diamond, and grassy area for games...perfect spaces for a ton of fun and fellowship

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

**Thursday, June 28**

**11:30 AM**

# LUNCH BUNCH

Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex by Sunday, June 24.



## ♦ June Celebrations



1	Isaac Rhoads	8	Dani Myers	17	Donna Pfautz
3	Wayne Dearolf	9	Ashley Huber	18	Amy Miller
4	Joshua Deibler	9	Dottie Wauls	19	Aarin Deibler
5	Mitch Gunzenhauser	10	Mary Grzybowski	19	Shawn King
5	Ryan Stitzel	10	Tim Smeltz	19	Sarah Styer
6	Abram Barley	11	Tom Grzybowski	20	Dawn Reinhart
6	Scott Smeltz	11	Chad Gunzenhauser	20	Julie Rhoads
7	Cheryl Callahan	12	Marie Adams	23	Jim Bear
7	Max Gunzenhauser	12	Kensie Barr	23	Katie Hetrick
7	Angela Sieglitz	12	Matthew Propst	24	Don Gunzenhauser
8	Steven Donnan	12	Mark Rosen	27	Cory Paternoster
		14	Michael Jarvie	27	Jeff Rickert
		14	Cathy Shirk	29	Sherri Anderson
		16	Zachary Swade	29	Dylan Quinn
		17	Jerry Huber	30	Sue Rhoads

### HAPPY BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAY!

1	Delaney Klepper	10	Sara Bernhard	21	Connor Donnan
1	Tash Novak	11	Lisa Bernhard	21	Steven Donnan
1	Dolly Overly	11	Lucy Davis	21	Juliette Moore
3	Carl Metzinger	12	Janet Reeves	22	Madeline Quinn
5	Jordan Provanzo	13	Gabrielle Contino	23	Evan Benedict
5	Kevin Reinhart	14	Floyd Jury	24	Jennifer Karpouzis
6	Angela Sieglitz	15	Laura Quinn	24	Harry Musselman
7	Joanne Grim	15	Andrew Sherwood	24	Jason Traup
7	Jennifer Pipkin	15	Brian Sherwood	28	Ed Blough
9	Helen Auchey	17	Aiden Seyfried	28	Miriam Janisewski
9	Troy Milholin	19	Rachael Grube	28	Stephanie Stitzel
		19	Nancy Smith	29	Jean Pretz
		21	Collin Donnan		

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

3	John & Kathleen Hay (46th)	23	Jere & Deb Grube (28th)
15	Al & Connie Alsedek (22nd)	23	Marlin & Mary Zimmerman (27th)
15	Rick & Deb Long (33rd)	24	Bob & Judy Traup (52nd)
16	Pat & Judy Brady (34th)	25	Richard & Marilyn Heim (57th)
20	Phil & Pam Houseal (37th)	26	Zachary & Kara Barr (11th)
20	Don & Laura Wierschke (48th)	27	Harry & Janet Musselman (59th)
22	Darrell & Barb Gerke (50th)	28	Jesse & Pat Landis (38th)
23	Ron & Kay Crawford (56th)	28	Doug & Sue Rhoads (38th)
		30	Justin & Stephanie Golihew (11th)



## **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.*

*July/August Newsletter Deadline: June 15*

*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)*