



# Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

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## ***DAILY DEVOTIONAL FROM PASTOR SELL***

### **Friday, February 18**

NPR recently had a story about a small-town church in Vermont which closed its doors and was torn down in October 2021. Talking with a 78-year-old man, the reporter learned area dairy farms had diminished and the town's population was just 20% of what it had been. The man said the church was torn down because the few remaining members did not to watch it slowly decay. When asked what he missed the most about the church he was quick to respond: "the people." "I miss the weekly gossip about what is happening to everybody. I miss the singing and the piano playing. I miss the monthly potluck lunches after church." He missed the regular rhythm of community. It is something we can all relate to during this pandemic.

I read the announcement of a small church in north central PA which was having its first face to face service since March 2020 on February 6, 2022. Can you imagine 23 months without a service? Since the time of Jesus, the church has always found a way to be the church. Jesus preached to people from boats, on a hillside, in a variety of buildings and many other places. The church of today still reaches out to keep people in contact and engaged.