

Zion Lutheran Monthly

December, 2015



INSide tHis iSSue:

Christmas Season	Pg 2
Chairman & Preschool News	Pg 3
Children & Youth Ministries	Pg 4
Upcoming Events	Pg 5
Service Participants	Pg 6
Birthdays & Anniversaries	Pg 7
Announcements	Pg 8
Calendar	Pg 9

The Advents of Christ

Did you know that there is more than one Advent? Advent is usually the time of the church year when we look forward to celebrating the birth of Christ, but it can also be a time when we look forward to Christ's second coming at the end of the age. So you probably did know that there is more than one Advent. If not, you do now. But what if I told you that there were more than two Advents; more than two times that Christ came?

Our midweek theme for this Advent season is the "Advents of Christ." We'll be taking a look at the times in history and in your own life when Christ came. I hope that you will be encouraged by what you discover during our time together on Wednesday evenings in December. As we've done over the last several years, we'll provide dinner (starting at 6) to make coming to midweek services easier for you and your family. Services start at 7:00pm.

So what are the other "Advents of Christ," other than Christmas and his second coming? Well, you'll have to come to our midweek services to find out, but I am fairly certain you will be encouraged by what you hear. Please consider making midweek worship a priority for you and for your family this Advent season, as we prepare ourselves for the celebration of Christmas, the birth of Christ, and God's decisive action in history to save us from our sins.

Also, keep in mind that we've got a number of worship opportunities for you this Christmas season. In addition to our midweek Advent services, we've also got Christmas Eve worship (7pm), Christmas Day worship (10am), and New Year's Eve worship (7pm). Join us this Christmas season to praise God and receive his gifts of Word and Sacrament!

-Pastor Duncan



Remember our Shut In's this Christmas

Tom Bicusky - 3275 Washington Pike Bridgeville PA 15017

Don Jones - 313 Liberty St. Bridgeville PA 15017

Ruth Miller - 615 N. Pike Road PC Rm 107 C Cabot PA 16023

Doris Oelschlager - 1043 Coolidge Street Bridgeville PA 15017

Jim & Norma Lynch - Strabane Woods, 319 Wellness Way,
Room 107, Washington, PA 15301

Norm & Helen Erbrecht - 104 Twin Ponds Lane Bridgeville PA 15017

George & Florence Boehme - Paramount Senior Living 240 Cedar Hill Drive
McMurray PA 15317

During the Christmas Season our Shut-in members would love to hear from you. Please consider sending a quick note to wish these members a Very Merry Christmas!



Christmas Caroling

Join us on December 13th as we spread Christmas Cheer to the shut in's of our congregation! We will meet at Zion at 4:30 pm so we can break into teams and visit as many people as we can. Everyone is welcome to attend. Keep an eye out for more details in the Sunday bulletin within in the next few weeks!

Christmas Decorating

Mark your calendar! We need your help to decorate the sanctuary for the Christmas season. We will decorate on Sunday December 6th after the 10:30am service. Lunch will be provided. Even if you can only help for a short period of time we can use your help!



Christmas Week will be very busy this year at Zion. Come see all your hard work from decorating the church as we have services December 23, 24, and 25!

Wednesday, December 23: Advent Dinner and Service at 6:00 pm and 7:00 pm respectively

Thursday, December 24: Christmas Eve Service at 7:00pm

Friday, December 25: Christmas Day Service at 10:00 am

We hope to see you all there as we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

JESUS
IS THE
REASON
FOR THE
SEASON

Chairman's Report

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

On behalf of the Church Council to wish everyone a Blessed Merry Christmas and Peaceful New Year!



Church, Mission & Synod (CMS) & Plate Finances

October Income	\$47,444.00
October Expenses	<u>50,014.00</u>
Unfavorable to Income	(\$2,570.00)

We are currently running around 5% below anticipated Church, Mission and Synod for the first 4 months. All bills through November have been paid. Continue to pray for Zion that we are able to grow our community outreach ministry, support local and international charities and Christian education for youth and adults. May God guide us in using these gifts and our talents for the remainder of this year.

Bob Schmidt

Chairman

Novembers - Voter's Meeting

On Sunday, November 1, the Voter's of Zion approved the following slate of candidates.

Chairman	Jay Anderson
Financial Secretary	Nancy Klemash
Recording Secretary	Brittany Dill
Elders	John Gielarowski
	Michael Kroeger
	David Miller
	James Neill
	Bob Schmidt
Trustees	Linda Kroeger
	John Lemonovich
	Wayne Oechslein
Board of Education	Kim Anderson
Event Committee	Tracey Harris



I would like to take this opportunity to thank the previous officers and to thank each of the above individuals for agreeing to serve Zion in one of the seven offices. As it is written - If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully. - Romans 12:7

Bob Schmidt

Chairman



Advent Dinners

On Wednesday evenings during the Advent Season we will have dinner together to celebrate the coming of Christ. Join us for the first one on Wednesday, December 2, at 6:00 pm. Then stick around after dinner for the Advent Service at 7:00 pm!

Sunday School News



The Sunday school Christmas Program is on Sunday, December 13th during the 10:30 am worship service. Children will be greeters, ushers and musicians, and will recite the story of Jesus' birth from Luke 2.

Upcoming Events

December 13 - Collections begin for Operation Stars and Stripes

December 20 - Sunday school Christmas party

December 27 - No Sunday school classes. Classes resume on January 3rd.



Preschool News

Greetings from the Preschool! We have been busy little Pilgrims and Indians. As we usually do in November, we asked the children to bring in food items for the Bridgeville food bank. We explained that the food bank is where people who don't have enough money to buy food can go and get food. Wow....the children were certainly up to the challenge. We were able to send bags and bags of food to help those less fortunate. It made the children feel good to know that they were helping little children and their families. Children truly are amazing in their capability to understand real topics when presented in a way that relates to them.

Our Ice Cream Social and Art Show was a HUGE success. We did miss the Spaghetti Dinner, especially those yummy meatballs, but the ice cream and all those delicious toppings made everyone very happy! We still had our bake sale and a basket raffle....fun was had by all. One of the most popular raffles wasn't even a basket...it was a parking spot. As you can imagine, our parking lot is very full with 140 families coming through, so a good parking spot is in high demand, especially for families with babies, and with the upcoming winter season approaching. We designated one spot as "Reserved" and families had the chance to purchase tickets with hopes of winning the coveted spot! We pulled 7 winning tickets so each month (November through May) a new family can have the spot. They loved it!

December will be filled with lots of fun Christmas activities. In addition to our Christmas parties, kids praise, Chapel, Lunch Bunch Moms Morning Out and our Christmas programs, we will host two "Shopping days". This is a time when parents can leave their children at school until 2:00 (with pizza, games and a movie, I might add) while their moms and dads have some shopping time "kid free". I'm sure it doesn't come as a surprise that this is very popular! The best part is that the kids love to stay at school longer with their wonderful teachers.

Our Christmas program will be on two days again this year due to the number of students and their families who attend. We would love for you to come and enjoy a night of beautiful Christmas music sung by our preschool children. What a joy it is to hear the good news of Christ's birth through the voices of these little children. The program dates are Monday December 7th and Tuesday December 8th. Hope to see you there.



Blessings,

Tracey Harris

Director



Youth & Young Life News

*Pumpkin Carving /
Pumpkin Launch was
a lot of fun!*



BLAY 16

It's not too early to begin making resolutions for 2016. May I suggest you resolve to read the Bible in a year? As a congregation, we did this once before, back in 2012, but it's been four years and it's time to do it again! Like we did last time, we will have the readings (and audio recordings of the readings) available on-line. The reading list will be available on-line, in the weekly worship bulletin and in the monthly newsletter. The sermons for the year will be based on the readings from the previous week. We are going all-in on reading the Bible in a Year for 2016!



Many of you read the Bible in a Year back in 2012, and it changed your life. It gave you a greater understanding of the Gospel, gave you a better picture of what exactly is in Scripture (and what is not), and strengthened your faith in Christ. If you read the Bible in a Year back in 2012, please consider encouraging someone else to read the Bible with you in 2016. It changed your life; it will change theirs too.

15 minutes a day. 1 year. The Bible. Let's do this, church!

The Bible in 10 Hours



10-hours

To accompany our 2016 theme of reading the Bible in a Year, we are going to go through the Bible in 10 hours! 6-9pm on 1/8 and 10-5 on 1/9, we are going to work our way from Genesis to Revelation. This program will help you understand the Big Picture themes that are found in the Bible, helping you understand what you are reading as you do the Bible in a Year.

Look for sign-ups for the Bible in 10 Hours in the entry way area to the church!

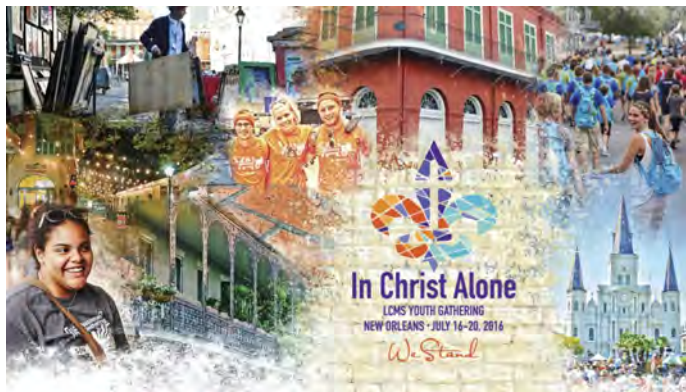
Mark Bible Study

Join us on Sunday morning for a Bible Study on the Gospel of Mark! We're meeting in the fellowship hall at 9:30 (after getting coffee and doughnuts) and usually get done around 10:20. Bring your Bibles and join us as we study this action-packed Gospel!



Upcoming Youth Event:

Mark your calendars for the National Youth Gathering! We will have an info meeting soon, so keep your eyes and ears open for that date! If you have any questions, contact Joe Faini.



WE ARE GOING!

WHO? ANYONE AGE 14-19 [At the time of the event]

WHEN? JULY 16-20, 2016

WHERE? NEW ORLEANS, LA

WHAT? EVERY 3 YEARS: ALMOST 30,000 YOUTH GATHER TOGETHER TO WORSHIP, SERVE, AND LEARN ABOUT JESUS!

Check Out

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_xJrnbIjMP8
More info to come!

****If you're interested in going****

Please contact Joe Faini:
youth@zlcb.org

Zion Lutheran Church
Missouri Synod



You won't want to miss it!

Service Participants

Date	Time	Greeters	Acolytes	Nursery
December 2 Advent Service	8:00 AM 10:30 AM		Elder	
December 6	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Ron & Judy Meier Rob Oelschlager	Josiah Ackerman Lara Luedeman	Alissa McLellan & Carley Rockovich
December 9 Advent Service	8:00 AM 10:30 AM		Elder	
December 13	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Brent & Marianne Miller & Mille Thiolet Elsie Dalla Piazza	Augie Bishop Leah Luedeman	Sydney Harris & Christine Chilcott
December 16 Advent Service	8:00 AM 10:30 AM		Elder	
December 20	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Bill & Melanie Becker Rose Steranko	Matt Liberatore Lara Luedeman	Susie Bishop & Jenny Fitzgerald
December 23 Advent Service	8:00 AM 10:30 AM		Elder	
December 24 Christmas Eve	7:00 PM	Crucifer: Chris Yellig	Anna Gresh, Matt Liberatore	
December 25 Christmas Day	10:00 AM	Peter & Barbara Fisher Crucifer: Elder	Carley Rockovich	
December 27	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Shane & Sandy Bryant Darren, Jennifer & Adam Elikar	Josiah Ackerman Anna Gresh	Carrie Lemonovich, Jenna, & Stephanie Eckels
December 31 New Year's Eve	7:00 PM		Elder	
January 3	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Carl & Karen Bauer Eric & Michelle Hunsberger & Family	Augie Bishop Leah Luedeman	Brittany Dill & Sharon Bogden
January 10	8:00 AM 10:30 AM	George, Jane & Michael Kozak Jay & Kim Anderson	Matt Liberatore Lara Luedeman	Megan Pasquini & Kristen Neill

Month	Elders	Altar Guild	8:00 AM Ushers	10:00 AM Ushers
December	Mike Sterba, Neil Ackerman	Janet Oelschlager, Marian Oelschlager, Molly Oelschlager	Carl Bauer, Gene Koop, Ron Meier, Jack Oelschlager	Loren Luedeman, Vince Kimberland, Jim Oelschlager, Ted Siek
January	Neil Ackermann, Mike Sterba	Elsie DallaPiazza Mary Hutula	Kathleen Conn, Bill Schrag, Janet & Larry Zreliak	Sam Dragan, Steve Gauger, Kari Gresh & Richard Quinlan

If you are unable to participate on the assigned date, please find your own substitute and notify the church office (412) 221-4776 or secretary@zlc.org of the change. Visit our website for past sermons, informative videos, thought-provoking articles, pictures from recent church events, and updated information about upcoming events.

Check it out: zlc.org

December Birthdays

1 Tess Carter

1 Laurie Eckels

2 John Coyle

2 Abigale Morgan

2 Sharon Oechslein

3 Augie Bishop

3 Linda Seibel

5 Benjamin Ackerman

5 James Goodge

6 Lucas Dill

10 Megan Glasser

10 Michael Kozak

11 Heather Nicodemus

12 Paul Green

12 Michael Oechslein

13 Opal Miller

13 Susan Stone

17 John Gresh

18 Bob Spotti

23 Adam Elikier

23 Megan Pasquini

24 Jeremy Dyczewski

24 Michael Dyczewski

25 Jesus Christ

27 Kay Case

27 Rebekah Quinlan

28 Sarah McLellan

28 Allyson Morgan

29 Kathleen Derosa

29 Leah Luedeman

30 Jordan James



December Anniversaries



22 Jesse & Tess Carter

Online Giving Available

Just a reminder, that Zion now offers electronic online giving on our web site:

To set up your electronic donation on our web site:

- Go to www.zlcb.org
- Click on the **News** tab the top of the page
 - Then click on the **Online Giving for Zion** text
 - Click on the **Online Giving** button
 - Click on the **Create Profile button**
 - Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile



Food Bank

Collection for this month's Bridgeville area food bank is Sunday, December 13. The "item of the month" is hot drinks. You are also welcome to help at the food bank every third Saturday of the month between 7:45 am and 12:00 pm at Bethany Presbyterian Church.



Bridgeville Food Bank News

Starting November 15, you will have the opportunity to participate in purchasing a gift of clothing or toy for a child registered with the Bridgeville Area Food Bank. If you wish to participate, choose an angel gift tag from the tree set up in the back of the church. Each gift tag is marked with an age and size for clothing. If the tag has child's age and gender only, the gift should be a toy. Your unwrapped gift costing around twenty dollars will need to be returned with the gift tag attached no later than Sunday, **DECEMBER 13**.

Zion Lutheran Church is a part of the area ministerial. The ministerial is formed by many local churches in the surrounding Bridgeville area. Volunteers representing the area churches come together to serve the people in need who live in the South Fayette and Chartiers Valley School districts. Our ministry is ongoing throughout the year and serves around one hundred-twenty families each month.

There are many ways in which you are able to support the food bank throughout the year. You may bring non-perishable food and place it in the Narthex. Financially, you may give a monetary donation with the check written to the Bridgeville Area Food Bank. The third Saturday of the month between 8:00 AM and 12:00 PM is when we set-up and assist recipients in the distribution of food at the Bethany Presbyterian Church on Washington Pike. We would welcome your help.

If you have any questions about the food bank please don't hesitate to ask.

In Christ's Service,

Barbara Oechslein

Bridgeville Area Food Bank Representative





December, 2015



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 9:00 am Moms in Prayer 7:15 pm Board of Ed Meeting	2 6:00 pm Advent Dinner 7:00 pm Advent Service	3 10:00 am Bible Study 7:30 pm Elders Meeting	4	5 8:00 am Men's Bible Breakfast
6 Second Sunday in Advent 8:00 am Worship w/ Communion 9:30 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30 am Worship w/ Communion 11:30 am Church Decoration & Lunch	7 7:00 pm Trustees Meeting	8	9 6:00 pm Advent Dinner 7:00 pm Advent Service	10 10:00 am Bible Study	11	12 8:00 am Men's Bible Breakfast
13 Third Sunday in Advent 8:00 am Worship w/ Communion 9:30 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30 am Worship w/ Communion 4:30 pm Christmas Caroling FOOD BANK COLLECTION	14	15 9:00 am Moms in Prayer	16 6:00 pm Advent Dinner 7:00 pm Advent Service	17 10:00 am Bible Study	18	19 8:00 am Men's Bible Breakfast
20 Fourth Sunday in Advent 8:00 am Worship w/ Communion 9:30 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30 am Worship w/ Communion	21	22	23 6:00 pm Advent Dinner 7:00 pm Advent Service	24 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Service	25 10:00 am Christmas Day Service 	26
27 First Sunday of Christmas 8:00 am Worship w/ Communion 9:30 am Bible Class 10:30 am Worship w/ Communion & Children's Church	28	29 6:30 pm Sunday School Meeting	30 7:00 pm Prayer & Preaching	31 10:00 am Bible Study 7:00 pm New Year's Eve Service 	Zion Lutheran Church 3197 Washington Pike Bridgeville, PA 15017 Phone: 412-221-4776 Web: zlcb.org	



For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called **Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

Isaiah 9:6



Sunday morning worship at 8:00am and 10:30am



Zion Lutheran Church

3197 Washington Pike

Bridgeville, PA 15017

www.zlcb.org

(412) 221-4776

Zion Lutheran Church
3197 Washington Pike
Bridgeville, PA 15017

