

Zion Lutheran Church

A Member Congregation of Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC)

15 South 4th Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101 www.zionharrisburg.org

Office Phone: 717-234-4064 / Church Email: zionhbg@comcast.net

Church Website: www.zionharrisburg.org

SEPTEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

Including Fall Worship and Programming Information

Communicating during the time of COVID-19. We are sending **group emails** to provide updates. If you are not receiving the emails and would like to add your email address to this communication, please email the **church office (zionhbg@comcast.net)**. The **voicemail greeting for the church office (717-234-4064)** and the **church website (www.zionharrisburg.org)** are frequently updated. The church office voicemail and email (information above) are checked regularly. **Pastor Karin is available by phone, text, and/or email. She will schedule meetings online via Zoom and/or in-person.**

Church Offering. We thank all who continue to generously support ministry at Zion. In the building, contributions can be placed in the offering boxes located in the main entrance. Contributions can also be mailed to the church office (address listed above).

Letter from the Pastor

The Apostle Paul: I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. *Ephesians 4:1-3 (ESV)*

The Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, and for the well-being of the Church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**

Dear Members & Friends of Zion,

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

On Sunday, September 5, we will return to singing parts of the liturgy in the main worship service. Since the beginning of the pandemic, we have been speaking the liturgy. While I look forward to singing the Kyrie, I am aware that I have developed a new and profound appreciation for the words of this prayer as we have been saying it together over the past year and a half. It is a beautifully comprehensive prayer that reminds me of a particular unifying

yard sign, “We Are All in This Together.” Around the globe, we are all hurting. We are all in need of the peace and mercy only God can provide.

Lately, I haven’t seen many examples of that particular yard sign. And, as we feel worn down by the ongoing uncertainty of the future combined with delays and complications resulting from the pandemic, many issues seem to divide us, instead of bringing us together. Paul’s instruction serves us well, encouraging us to be humble, gentle, and patient. Later in the same chapter, the Apostle gives a strong reason for us to behave in a manner worthy of our calling in Christ: “Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, **as God in Christ forgave you.**” – Ephesians 4:32.

Thanks to the blessings of technology, the tremendous efforts of staff and volunteers, and the faithful participation of members and friends, the Zion community has been able to worship God together, to pray for one another, and to serve one another throughout these challenging times. May God bless us to continue together in our journey as sisters and brothers in Christ, “bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”

In Christ’s Service, Pastor Karin Pejack

Church Office Update

After many years of faithful service, Zion’s office administrator, Deitra Jones, has resigned. She had been on medical leave. Over the summer, Madelyn Stalter has been serving as temporary office administrator. August 20 is her last day in the office. She will be returning to college for her second year of studies. The personnel committee has begun the search process for a new office administrator. Beginning August 23, office hours will be by appointment only until the new office administrator begins serving in the position. Please pray for all involved in the search process and that God will provide a person with the skills and heart for this vital position at Zion.

8/16 – 8/20 Church Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9am – 12pm

8/23 - ongoing by appointment only

COVID Protocol & Worship Updates

We are committed to keeping the Zion community connected in worship and prayer. Our main Sunday 10:15am worship service will consistently be offered in-person and online. Both are important, because there are members who are not able to access the online service and there are others who, for a variety of reasons, are not able to come to the building. At all activities in the building, people may choose to mask and to social distance.

We encourage all to prayerfully exhibit love of neighbor and respect for the wishes of those who choose to continue to mask and to social distance from others when in the building. We continue to request those who have a fever or who are not feeling well to remain home. Online worship is available for the 10:15am worship service on Sunday mornings. WOW (Worship on Wednesdays at 12:10pm) will continue online only until September 15, when we are planning to meet in-person in the Chapel and to broadcast online. Communion

will be offered in-person and online on the 1st and 3rd Sundays and in-person and online on the 1st Wednesday. Pastor Karin is fully vaccinated and is available to provide home communion.

When attending in-person on Sunday mornings, the Chestnut Street Garage is a good option for parking. Current and functioning validation tickets are available on site at Zion. Regarding Altar Flowers, Zion will continue to utilize artificial arrangements through the end of 2021. Many thanks to Judy Reynolds for procuring the beautiful seasonal arrangements.

Fall Worship and Programming Schedule

May be subject to change. Updates available at the church website & on the voicemail.

In-Person and Online Designated in Red

We plan to provide time for sharing prayer concerns and brief greetings online and in-person BEFORE the start of worship services and programs.

Sunday

Currently through August 29:

10:15am **Worship Service** (in-person & online)

no congregational singing & two anthems

Beginning September 5:

10:15am **Worship Service** – Congregational singing of hymns & liturgy (in-person & online)

Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays & Festivals

September 12: Rally Day & Gallery Walk

9:00am **Joint Sunday School** (in-person only)

9:45am **Fellowship** (in-person only)

10:15am **Worship Service** (in-person & online)

12:00pm – 5:00pm **Gallery Walk** (in-person only)

See Gallery Walk Article for more details.

Beginning September 19 & ongoing:

9:00am Regular **Sunday School** Programming (in-person only)

9:45am **Fellowship** (in-person only)

10:15am **Worship Service** (in-person & online)

Tuesday

Beginning September 14 & ongoing:

12:10pm **Bible Study: Colossians** (online only)

Will be recorded and posted to website

Wednesday

Currently through September 8:

12:10pm **WOW, Worship On Wednesday**, (online only)

Beginning September 15 & ongoing:

12:10pm **WOW, Worship On Wednesday**, (in-person & online)

Broadcast from Chapel with Laptop & multi-directional mic
12:40pm **Lunch Fellowship** (in-person only)

Fellowship Meal

October 31 **Reformation German Meal**; following 10:15am Worship (in-person only)

Weekly Schedule & Zoom/YouTube Information

The Meeting ID and Passcode to attend our weekly online worship services and Bible Studies on Zoom is listed below. The online links are available on the church website. **To join by phone, dial 1 646 558 8656. Use the Meeting ID & Passcode listed below.**

Sunday 10:15am: Worship Service

Meeting ID: 816 5895 6443

Passcode: 847172

Beginning September 14

Tuesday 12:10pm Bible Study

Meeting ID: 872 0166 0471

Passcode: 258673

Wednesday 12:10pm: WOW (Worship on Wednesday), concludes at 12:35pm

Meeting ID: 895 4667 5525

Passcode: 849793

YouTube Broadcast Worship

In addition to continuing to worship with Zoom, we are offering a new method for congregants and visitors to join in Worship on Sundays and Wednesdays. We will be broadcasting worship on our YouTube channel using YouTube Live. The content of worship will be the same as attending via Zoom, however YouTube offers some differences, including:

- Anonymity - Watching the worship service through YouTube is a similar experience to watching a video on your computer. Unlike participating via Zoom, there is no way for us to see or hear you during the service. Joining Worship this way is completely anonymous.
- More accessible - Many devices such as Smart TVs and DVD players, Roku, tablets, and some cable boxes now come with the YouTube app built in. Just look for the YouTube Logo on your device.

How to join via YouTube: At worship time, open the YouTube app or go to [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com). Search for Zion Lutheran Church Harrisburg & select the result with a photo of the church as the icon. On our main page will be an alert that we are "Live," allowing you to join. We will start broadcasting 5 to 10 minutes before worship starts.

Serving Opportunities

We are looking for volunteers: to assist in the sound/audio-visual area; to lector and to lead responsive readings in-person or online; to serve as assisting ministers; provide transportation to worship; and, in other areas. Please contact the pastor if you are interested in serving. More information and training will be provided.

Operation Christmas Child has Begun!

Items for the shoeboxes can be brought to Zion or dropped off at Judy Attick's house. Judy also accepts monetary donations to purchase items. Contact Judy for more details: 717-564-0798.

Special Guest Musician Serving in Worship on August 22 & 29

Alex Seman, who will begin his senior year this fall at Harrisburg Academy, will be serving as pianist throughout the 10:15am service on August 22 & 29. He will be playing a prelude and two anthems live in the worship space. We thank him for sharing his gifts and talents with us in worship.

Pastor Karin Out of the Office: August 30 – September 2

Pastor Karin will be taking vacation time 8/30 – 9/2. Pastor Keith Eslinger will be providing pastoral care while she is out of the office and will be leading worship for the WOW Service on 9/1. His contact information is available from the church office.

Preparing for Gallery Walk on Sunday, September 12, 12-5pm

Zion is looking forward to participating in the Harrisburg Gallery Walk. Below is information about the art on display at Zion from this year's brochure:

On view will be artwork by Sam Pejack, as well as works by members and friends of Zion. Tours of the historic church, highlighting the stained-glass windows and a collection of original Biblical stencil prints by the Japanese Christian Artist, Sadao Watanabe, will be offered.

Over the past year and a half, we have been blessed to view beautiful photos during online worship. Zion's Minister of Technology, Catherine, is putting together a digital slideshow entitled: "God All Around Us" with these images. This slideshow will be running during Gallery Walk. There is also room for other art to be displayed.

The deadline for signing up to display art and for digital photos to be included in the slideshow is August 22. Photos should be emailed to Catherine. To display art or to volunteer to help on the day of the event (**volunteers are needed to welcome and direct visitors in Zion's building**), please email the church office.

Worship at Bethesda Mission Men's Shelter on 2nd Sundays at 7:00pm **September 12 & October 10**

Pastor Karin and Todd Pejack and volunteers from Zion and St. Timothy Lutheran Church in Camp Hill bring a monthly worship service of Holy Communion to the Men's Shelter. This outreach ministry resumed in August. Adjustments in conducting the service have been made

and safety protocols are in place for the protection of clients and volunteers. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Pastor Karin or Todd.

Bethesda Mission Annual Celebration Banquet 2021

Thursday, September 23 / 5:45pm Doors Open/ 6:30-8:30pm Dinner & Program

The congregation of Zion will contribute to the event as a banquet partner. Members and friends of Zion who would like to attend the event, are invited to register individually. The link to register is listed below:

<https://www.bethesdamission.org/event/annual-celebration-banquet/>

Zoom Council Meetings: Mondays, September 27 & October 25, at 6:30pm

Please pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance for all who are serving in leadership. Zoom invitations will be emailed from the Church Office.

The Alva, Zion's Neighbor, Featured in Harrisburg Magazine

There is an article about The Alva Hotel & Restaurant and owner/manager Abraham Mater in the August 2021 Issue of Harrisburg Magazine. A link is listed below. Recent updates and renovations are highlighted. I have enjoyed a delicious and reasonably priced breakfast there. In these challenging times, please pray for restaurant and business owners and staff in Harrisburg.

<https://harrisburgmagazine.com/2021-online-issues/august-2021-simply-the-best/>

Prayer List

Ministries in Zion's Building: Good Shepherd Anglican Church (affiliated with the REC), Faith Empowerment Worship Center, Helping Individuals Succeed

Missionary: Ruth C. – currently in England and will be traveling in Romania

Homebound Members: Jackie G., Nathalee K., Anna R.

Persons with acute need of prayer for physical and/or spiritual healing (upcoming surgery/procedure/tests; recovery from recent illness or surgery /procedure /tests):

Bud & Judy W., Todd & Sandy W., Shirley (Kim Y.'s mother), Larry (Ann P.'s friend), Jackson (Catherine G.'s nephew), Mike (Deb G.'s family)

Persons on long-term healing journeys

Dr. Mary (from clinic where Judy A. works), Paul, John G., Mark M., Eric, Phil & Nancy (Lutheran pastor & wife, friends of Zion), Deitra, Peter (Ruth C.'s father)

If you have asked that someone be placed on our prayer list, please call or email the church office to let us know when prayers have been answered or the need has changed.

If you would like to send a card to someone listed, please contact the church office for the address.

September Birthdays & Anniversaries

September Birthdays: Mike Megoulas 09/12; Dixie Geistwite 09/13; Stephanie Eslinger 09/14
Dena Lavender 09/15; Bud Wisman 09/19; Margaret Leedom 09/26; Ann Pacey 9/30

September Anniversaries: Irv & Nancy Eshenour 09/02; Todd & Sandy Wisman 09/17;
Lee & Judy Atticks 09/23; Mike & Judy Reynolds 09/28

October Birthdays: Debra Eslinger 10/02; Brian Haas 10/11; Marcus Osborne 10/12;
Jesse Evans 10/13; Judy Atticks 10/14; Logan Daugherty 10/17; Farid Yunez 10/17;
Judy Wisman 10/23; Nathan Marks 10/23; Lara Eslinger 10/26

October Anniversaries: Michael & Dena Lavender 10/18; Steve & Danielle Saylor 10/28