

Zion Herald

Issue 5

Oct./November
2020

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Would you like to be added to Zion's email list? Invitations to online worship services & special events and congregational updates are sent on a regular basis. Email the church office, zionhbg@comcast.net, to begin receiving church emails.

The article below is the twelfth and final installment in a series about spiritual practices illustrated by stained-glass windows in our worship space. The articles were written as part of one of the classes in the Doctor of Ministry Program from which Pastor Karin recently graduated. The article has been updated.



Ascension of Jesus: Worship & Joy
While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple blessing God. – Luke 24:51-53
English Standard Version

As I began writing this series of newsletter articles on Zion's stained-glass windows, I never imagined that the final installment would appear at a time when we are not attending services in the main worship space. The good news is that we are actively working to complete the audio and visual recording system so that we can broadcast services from that beautiful space. This development will serve the congregation well into the future. There will be a consistent way for members to attend in-person as well as online and by phone. Visitors who would like to learn more about Zion's spiritual life before walking through the doors can first experience a service remotely.

Zion's church leadership continues to actively monitor current government policies as we plan for a return to in-person worship. We respect everyone's personal discernment regarding choosing to attend or not to attend an in-person worship service when that option becomes available.

As a smaller congregation, the ability for us to be together at the 10:15am Sunday service is essential. The goal is for online, phone, and in-person attendance to be available each Sunday. As we await that time, I pray that this image of the Ascension window and the reflection on the image will encourage your worship and prayer life.

When viewing the window depicting the Ascension of Jesus, you have to look up to see Christ. Entering the worship space at Zion, one's eye is drawn upward into the images of the tall windows and the high ceiling with decorative molding. The tops of the stained-glass windows contain images of castles, a reminder of the heavenly kingdom.

The whole space is different from a home, apartment, or office. The architecture and design serve to remind us that the kingdom of God has broken into earth with the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. That is Good News and cause for celebration and joy.

We do not need to be in a traditional church space to worship God, but the visual aids can help. Sometimes it's hard to see the presence Christ in the world or to sense His peace. A place that looks and feels different, or even otherworldly, can help us to enter into a sense of being in God's presence. Weekly worship helps keep us connected to God.

The challenge is to take the gratitude and joy of the worship service into the world when we leave a scared space. We are quick to gripe when things go wrong. How about more mini-celebrations when things go well, giving thanks to the One who created us and sustains us? How would moments of joyful worship during the week impact your life?

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. Contact the church office for details.

Office Hours: Monday, 9-11am The office administrator, Deitra Jones, plans to be in the office at this time to answer phone calls, sort mail, and handle other office responsibilities.

Assistance with Shopping for Supplies. There are members on the East and West Shores who have offered to pick up groceries, prescriptions, or other life-sustaining supplies for those in need. Contact the church office or Pastor Karin.

Church Offering. We thank all who continue to generously support ministry at Zion. Contributions can be mailed to the church office:

Zion Lutheran Church, 15 S. 4th Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101

Interested in Becoming an Official Member of Zion?

Pastor Karin meets with prospective members over the phone, via Zoom, or in-person masked & social distanced. Contact her for more information or to set-up a meeting.

Weekly Schedule & Recurring Zoom 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, Prelude begins at 10:10am

3rd Sunday Communion

Meeting ID: 816 5895 6443

Passcode: 847172

Tuesday 12:10pm: PB & Jesus Bible Study, concludes at 12:50pm

Meeting ID: 893 3719 2529

Passcode: 863730

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

Prelude begins at 12:05pm, 1st Wednesday Communion

Meeting ID: 895 4667 5525

Passcode: 849793

Communion Information: Those wishing to commune during online worship are invited to intentionally prepare for communion prior to the start of the service. Prayerfully bring the elements of bread and wine or grape juice to where you will be worshipping. If you need assistance to obtain proper elements of bread, wine or grape juice, please contact the pastor. Since the fullness of the sacrament is present in one of the elements, you may commune with bread or wine/grape juice and simply bow in prayer as the other element is raised in worship. Please consume the elements or return them to the earth following the service. The bulletin will also include a prayer for spiritual communion for those who are not participating in distance communion. More information about distance communion is available on the church website.

Opportunities to Serve in Worship: There are opportunities to serve in online worship as lector (reading Scripture lessons) and in providing special music. Please contact Pastor Karin to volunteer.

We are officially on facebook! Please "like" us and share the page with your friends. Facebook pages for churches are another way of witnessing to the greater community. Whether you have a facebook account or not, you can visit us at <https://www.facebook.com/zionlutheranharrisburg/>

Upcoming Zoom Council Meetings

October 26 and December 7 (Combined Nov./December Meeting) at 6:30pm

Zoom invitations will be emailed from the Church Office.

Annual Meeting Highlights

The Annual Meeting was held on Sunday September 27, 2020 following the regular Zoom 10:15am Worship Service. A quorum of 27 voting members was present by video or telephone. Zion's constitution requires 25% of the voting members to constitute a quorum. At the time of this meeting, there were 61 voting members. 44% of voting members were present. There were 7 absentee ballots.

Staff and volunteers were thanked for new and ongoing ministry work during this time of COVID-19. Outgoing council members John Cooper and Marcus Osborne were recognized for their service.

The following motions passed with no dissents:

A. APPROVAL OF 2019 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

B. ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Jeff Springer (first term), Mike Reynolds (first term), Wanda Haas (second term)

C. ADOPTION OF 2020/2021 BUDGET

3rd Friday Fallout Shelter Inspirational Coffee House ZOOM PARTY!!!

Friday, October 16, 6:30pm—8:30pm

HAVE A HOLLY JOLLY HARVEST FESTIVAL!

For God is the one who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, he will provide and increase your resources and then produce a great harvest of generosity in you. Yes, you will be enriched in every way so that you can always be generous. And when we take your gifts to those who need them, they will thank God. 2 Corinthians 9:10-11

Thanksgiving and Christmas are around the corner. This coffee house is a celebration to take us through the end of the year. Festive attire, such as appropriate costumes or ugly Christmas sweaters, is encouraged! DJ Remedy returns to bless us with a set of upbeat music. **For those seeking spiritual refreshment at the end of the week, come join us for live music, poetry, prayer, and more. Online open mic opportunities for those wishing to share their talent in meaningful and uplifting ways.** The guideline for participating live at the Zoom Party is Ephesians 4:29 — "Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear." At the Zoom Parties over the past months, we have been blessed to hear from returning favorites and new participants. We welcome recorded music and presentations. Email Pastor Karin at the church office (zionhgb@comcast.net) for details.

Zoom Information: Meeting ID: 823 1689 6852

Passcode: 020271

To join by phone, dial **1 646 558 8656**. Use the Meeting ID & Passcode listed above. The link to attend online will be emailed closer to the event, and will also be available on Zion's site: www.zionharrisburg.org

Special Harvest Home Offering October 11-31, 2020

In past years on this Sunday, we collected non-perishable food items and monetary donations for the Ecumenical Food Pantry in Harrisburg. **This year, we are taking a special collection throughout the month of October. Half of the offering will be sent to the Ecumenical Food Pantry and half will be held to meet needs of members, friends, and neighbors of Zion.** To help with record-keeping and because this offering includes discretionary spending, donations should be made out to Zion Lutheran Fellowship Class with "Food Offering" in the memo line. Checks can be mailed to Dixie Geistwite (Fellowship Class Treasurer) 1470 Riegle Road, Harrisburg, PA 17112

Bethesda Mission Food Drive: Nov. 2 – December 16

Provide a meal that starts it all. At rescue missions like ours, it's often by first meeting someone's basic needs, like food, that we can develop a relationship that leads to a transformed life. Our goal is 120,000 pounds by December 16! Here's how you can help: Fill a bag with non-perishable food items and drop it off at any of the collection points listed below

Suggested food items: Canned green beans, corn, yams, gravy, boxed mashed potatoes, stuffing, cranberry sauce, fruit cocktail, pasta, rice, condiments

Turkeys, hams (please only drop these off at Bethesda Men's Mission)

Drop off locations: Contact Zion church office for members receiving donations at their homes located on the East and West Shores.

Bethesda Men's Mission, 611 Reily Street, Harrisburg, PA 17102

M&T Bank Branches in Dauphin and Cumberland Counties

Dauphin County Libraries (Harrisburg Locations)

Sharp Shopper in Middletown

Operation Christmas Child Update from Judy Atticks

What an exciting time to be packing shoeboxes for children all around the world. Everyone needs to be shown love, and especially during these trying times. Your outpouring of love to support this project warms my heart. You have contributed \$610 in checks or cash, and others have bought toys that amounted to approximately \$120. It takes approximately between \$15 and \$16 to pack one box, so that means we have enough money to pack 45 boxes. I just got 2 checks today from parishioners at Good Shepherd and they gave enough to pack 5 more boxes, so we are up to 50. I also know one member of the congregation who is packing 2 boxes at their home, so that makes 52. Only God knows what our final count will be but we will keep collecting and packing during October. We will give you updates on Sundays during October. If you have a child or grandchild who would like to write a letter to one of the children, we will put it in one of the shoeboxes. They could even enclose a picture. Maybe they will get a response, but if not, remember they are doing it to the glory of God and to spread his love. You can still send monetary donations. The deadline for completing the boxes is October 31. The shoeboxes will be blessed during the November 8 Sunday worship service. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to call me at 717-903-1229 or write to me at 6441 Shatto Drive Harrisburg PA 17111.

Prayer List

Missionary: Ruth Cheng serving 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):

Betty C., Frank S., Ronald (Terri's husband), Bishop John

Persons in need of prayer for long-term physical and/or spiritual healing: Tom A., Karen B., Paul B., Sharon B., Audrey, Lowell, Carol D., John D., Patrick D., Nancy E., Jim J., Margaret J., Heather K., Susan K., Ken K., Mary K., John L., Chase M., Mark M., Sonia M., Hazel N., Sally O., Janice P, Kasey R., Susan R., Josh R., Sara R., Danielle S. Alex Sch., Charles S., Matthew S., Roy S., Lien T., Sally S-W., Bud W., Judy W., Grayson, Mary, Rhys, Trey, William, Victor, Kelly, Eleanor, Phil & Nancy, Rosa F., John G., Don A. , Jana, Marius, Sally

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

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

Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

October Anniversaries

Michael & Dena Lavender 10/18
Steve & Danielle Saylor 10/28

November Birthdays

Deb Grubbs 11/04
Tina Thieu 11/14
Jaiden Robinson 11/14
Todd Wisman 11/24
Pastor Karin Pejack 11/30

November Anniversaries

Rick & Ricky Perrine 11/03

Thank You for Your Support of Mission in Romania!

Zion contributed over \$1,800 to support the shelter for trafficked and abused women in Romania at which Missionary Ruth Cheng works.

Reaching Out Romania website: <http://www.reachingout.ro/>

Link to video about the work at the shelter:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hMrEtSV7CUc&feature=emb_title

Worship at Bethesda Mission Men's Shelter on 2nd Sundays at 7:00pm

October 11 & November 8

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. Around fifty men attended last month. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Pastor Karin or Todd.

November 1, 2020 Daylight Saving Time Ends

Don't forget to set your clock back one hour.

Bring the Annual German Reformation Meal to Your Home!

Chef Todd is sharing some favorite recipes from past Reformation Sunday Fellowship Meals.

ALMOND BUTTER CAKE

- 1 C butter, room temperature
- 1 C almond paste (not almond filling)
- 2 eggs
- 2 C sugar
- ½ t almond flavoring
- 2 C flour
- 1 egg white
- Sliced almonds
- Coarse decorating sugar

1. In a large bowl, combine butter, almond paste, 2 eggs, sugar, and almond flavoring. Beat with an electric mixer on medium to high speed for 5 minutes or until light and fluffy. Add flour and blend well.
2. Spread batter into two 8" round cake pans that have been buttered, floured, and lined with parchment paper. In a small bowl, beat 1 egg white with 1 T water. Brush egg mixture on the two cakes. Sprinkle with sliced almonds and coarse sugar. Bake at 325° for 40 to 42 minutes or until a toothpick inserted near the centers comes out clean.

PASTOR PEJACK'S "FAMOUS" SPICED APPLES

- 1 can opener
- 1 can of "Heat N Serve" spiced homestyle country apples,
- 1 C apple cider or apple juice

1. Using the can opener, remove the top of the can from the apples. Place apples in a saucepan or crock pot.
2. Heat apples until warm.
3. Thin syrup with up to one cup of cider to desired consistency.
4. Serve proudly.

GERMAN SAUSAGE WITH KRAUT (Bratwurst und Gedunstetes Sauerkraut)

- 4 lbs. sauerkraut
- ½ lb. sliced bacon, cut into 1 in. strips
- 2 onions, coarsely chopped
- 1 t caraway seeds
- 8 juniper berries, lightly crushed
- 1 whole clove
- 10 peppercorns
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 tart apple, peeled, cored and grated
- 1 t salt
- 1 t pepper
- 3 lbs. Bratwurst, frankfurters or white sausages (or a mix of those)
- 4 boneless smoked pork chops (¾ in. thick)
- 3 C Riesling or other dry white wine, or apple juice

1. Soak the kraut in a bowl of cold water for 30 minutes. Drain and rinse. Squeeze dry and transfer the kraut to a large bowl; set aside.
2. Meanwhile, in a large, heavy, non-reactive casserole, cook the bacon over moderately low heat until most of the fat has been rendered, about 5 minutes. Stir in the onions. Reduce the heat to low, cover and cook, stirring occasionally, for 15 minutes longer.
3. Add the bacon and onion mixture to the kraut. Stir in the caraway seeds, juniper, clove, peppercorns, bay leaf, apple, salt and pepper.
4. Preheat oven to 350°. Place a ½-inch layer of the kraut in the bottom of a large casserole pan or Dutch oven and top with some of the meats. Continue layering until all ingredients have been used, ending with a layer of kraut. Pour the wine on top and bring to a boil over high heat.
5. Cover the casserole and bake for 50 minutes. To serve, mound the kraut on a large platter and surround it with the meats.