

Zion Lutheran Church

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

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

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Church Website: www.zionharrisburg.org

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

In-person & Online Worship and Programming List at Conclusion of Newsletter

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

Dear Members & Friends of Zion,

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

These days, I find it harder to get up on time, because it's dark in the morning. Recent cloudy days have made it worse. The ongoing strains of the pandemic add to the gloomy atmosphere. It feels like the Scripture verse below:

If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light about me be night."

But that lament actually leads to testimony of about the nature and power of God:

"even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you" (Psalm 139:11-12).

And, as Christians, we remember that God's power and light came into this world through God's Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, who said, *"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" (John 8:12).*

In these days of lengthening shadows, may we actively remind one another of the light and life of Christ which no darkness can overcome. May we reflect the light, love, peace, and hope of Jesus into a dim and hurting world.

O Christ Jesus, when all is darkness and we feel our weakness and hopelessness, give us the sense of your presence, your love, and your strength. Help us to have perfect trust in your protecting love and strengthening power, so that nothing may frighten or worry us, for, living close to you, we shall see your hand, your purpose, your will through all things.

- *Ignatius of Loyola (Spain/ 1491-1556)*

In Christ's Service, Pastor Karin Pejack

Church Office Update

On October 1, Susan Licon began serving as Zion's Office Administrative Assistant. Please welcome Sue and pray for her as she begins serving in this important role in our faith community. The church office hours are listed below.

Church Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9am – 12pm

We continue to encourage calling ahead to confirm entry to the office and to check on the parking situation when you plan to arrive.

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 to meet online only. Communion will be offered in-person and online on the 1st and 3rd Sundays 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.

Reformation Day Celebration & Meal – October 31

October 31 is Reformation Day! Following our 10:15am Worship Service in the upstairs worship space with organ music, we will host a traditional German meal. ***To help us plan for the meal, please let us know if you plan to attend by signing-up in the Fellowship Hall or by calling or emailing the church office.***

All Saints Sunday - November 7

On this Sunday, during the 10:15am Worship Service, we will remember members of Zion and loved ones of the Zion community who entered the Church Triumphant over the past year. **If you would like to list the name of a loved one who died this past year in the bulletin, please email or call the church office. Please give the name as you would like it listed and the person's relationship to you.** Those attending in-person will have an opportunity to remember loved ones by lighting a candle during the service.

Remembering Paul Bernard

On Tuesday, October 5, our brother in Christ, Paul Bernard, died after many years of physical struggles. Paul regularly attended Sunday School and Sunday & Wednesday worship services prior to joining Zion in 2019. He will be remembered for his joyful and strong Christian faith

which upheld him in his earthly journey. A Memorial Service for Paul was held in the Chapel at Zion on October 9. If you would like to view the recording of the memorial service, contact the church office to receive the link to the recording. Please pray for consolation for Paul's loved ones. May they and we take hope in the power and life of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus, in which Paul and we participate through our baptism in Christ. Eternal rest grant unto Paul, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon him.

Mission Sunday – November 14

Missionary Presentations & Blessing of the Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

In a special 9:00am joint Sunday School session, Missionaries from Transworld Radio, Randy & Cristy Shearer, will share about their ministry. During the 10:15am Worship Service, there will be a brief Mission Moment presentation about Transworld Radio and the 2021 shoeboxes will be blessed for distribution.

Gallery Walk Report

After missing last year due to COVID, Zion opened its doors to the community as a site on the Art Association of Harrisburg's Gallery Walk on 9/12. Many thanks go out to all who participated in providing art and those who helped to welcome 65+ people to the building.

Special Harvest Home Offering Fall 2021

In past years on this Sunday, we collected non-perishable food items and monetary donations for the Ecumenical Food Pantry in Harrisburg. Zion has made a \$100 donation to the Ecumenical Food Pantry. Members and friends are encouraged to make contributions (non-perishable food and other items or monetary) to local organizations providing food and basic necessities to those in need. Some local suggestions are listed below:

Ecumenical Food Pantry

<https://efoodpantry.org/>

Central Pennsylvania Food Bank

<https://www.centralpafoodbank.org/>

Downtown Daily Bread

<https://downtowndailybread.org/>

Food Drive at Bethesda Mission (Oct. 25- Dec. 8)

<https://www.bethesdamission.org/event/food-drive/>

WOW Outreach Offering Distributions – Making an Impact While Worship is Online

Zion thanks the Worship on Wednesday (WOW) community for their ongoing support of local outreach agencies through their generous offerings received at the church office. The following donations were recently sent: \$300-Downtown Daily Bread; \$300-Bethesda Mission Community Center Building Project; \$200-Christian Churches United; \$200-Shalom House.

Operation Christmas Child Update

Deadline for donations is October 31. 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.

Pastor Karin Out of the Office: October 21-22 & November 6-7

Pastor Keith Eslinger will be providing pastoral care while she is out of the office and will be leading worship on November 7. His contact information is available from the church office.

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

November 14 & December 12

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 & Healing Prayer to the Men's Shelter. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Pastor Karin or Todd.

Christmas At Italian Lake: December 11 & 12

The fifth annual Christmas at Italian Lake event will highlight the spirit of the season by bringing the greater Harrisburg region together in a weekend of joy, celebration, and twinkling Christmas nostalgia. All proceeds benefit Bethesda Mission with the goal of helping the nonprofit meet the needs of the homeless population of Harrisburg.

An ensemble of "Dickens Carolers" from Zion will be singing on Saturday (12/11), 11:00-11:30am. A photo of past "Dickens Carolers" from Zion is part of the promotion for this year's event at this link: <http://christmasitalianlake.com/>

Zoom Council Meetings: Mondays, October 25 & December 6 (Nov./Dec. mtg), 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.

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.

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., Jamie W., Todd & Sandy W., Betty C. (John C.'s mom), Jim J., Monty (Eslinger Family relative), Fred (Bob & Wanda's friend), Joe (Jeff S.'s friend)

Persons on long-term healing journeys

John G., Lee A., Mark M., Al & Marianne G. (Catherine's mother & father), Catherine G., Dr. Mary (from clinic where Judy A. works), Phil & Nancy (Lutheran pastor & wife, friends of Zion), Deitra, Peter (Ruth C.'s father), MaryBeth & Larry (Ann P.'s friends), Don, Charlotte & Grace (friends of Deb & Steve), Dolores, Phyllis

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.

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; Spencer Zapcic 10/24; Lara Eslinger 10/26

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

November Birthdays: Deb Grubbs 11/04; Tina (Thieu) Polley 11/14; Jaiden Robinson 11/14; Todd Wisman 11/24; Pastor Karin Pejack 11/30

November Anniversaries: Rick & Ricky Perrine 11/03

December Birthdays: Ashley Lavender 12/03; Marissa Wisman 12/10; Caroline Snyder 12/20; Irv Eshenour 12/22; Heidi Eshenour 12/28; Kelly Grubbs 12/30; Wanda Haas 12/30

December Anniversaries: Harold & Ann Pacey 12/31

October - November 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

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

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

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

Tuesday

October 19 & 26

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

Will be recorded and posted to website

Resuming November 30, December 7, 14, 21

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

“Wait Upon the Lord: with Faith, Hope, Rejoicing, & Gratitude”

Will be recorded and posted to website

Wednesday

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

Tuesday 12:10pm Bible Study (Oct. 19 & 26; Nov. 30, December 7, 14 & 21)

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.