

Who We Are As Lutherans

Zion is a centrist Lutheran congregation. We see ourselves as Biblical, liturgical, traditional, and evangelical, with a strong commitment to Christian ministry and mission. As Lutherans, we believe that all are sinners before God; nothing that we do can earn God's favor or our forgiveness; Jesus accomplished in full our salvation on the cross. As those called and re-deemed through Christ we are empowered by the Holy Spirit to live lives of faith and service to the Glory of God and in service to one another. We believe the Bible is God's Word to humans. God's Word in Holy Scripture never fails to bring us to salvation in Jesus Christ. We take seriously the Great Commission to "go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you." We are truly on a mission to know Christ and to make Christ known.

Outreach Ministry

Currently, Zion supports various ministries, including Christian Churches United, Downtown Daily Bread, Bethesda Mission and the Ecumenical Food Pantry. The offering from our Wednesday Worship service goes directly to outreach in the city of Harrisburg. We also provide Bibles, devotional materials, drinking water, snacks and prayer for all in need who stop by the church office. Zion hosts "Outside the Gate" cooperative ministry that provides coffee and fellowship on Sunday mornings to passers-by.

Currently Weekly Schedule

Sunday

9:00am Sunday School
9:45am Fellowship
10:15am Worship Service

(Our current schedule for Holy Communion is on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month and on Festivals; anointing for healing occurs during the worship service on the 3rd Sunday of the month)

Tuesdays

12:10-12:50 PB&Jesus Bible Study (Sept.-May)
(PB&J sandwich fixings provided)

Wednesdays — WOW (Worship On Wednesday)

12:10-12:40 Service of Word & Prayer
(Holy Communion on the 1st Wednesday of the month)
Lunch fellowship follows the service

Special Events

Zion holds special events throughout the year to enrich the lives of its members and friends, including a Reformation service and celebration, All Saints Sunday, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday services, German "Himmelfahrt" Ascension service, and an Advent/Christmas Musical Program.

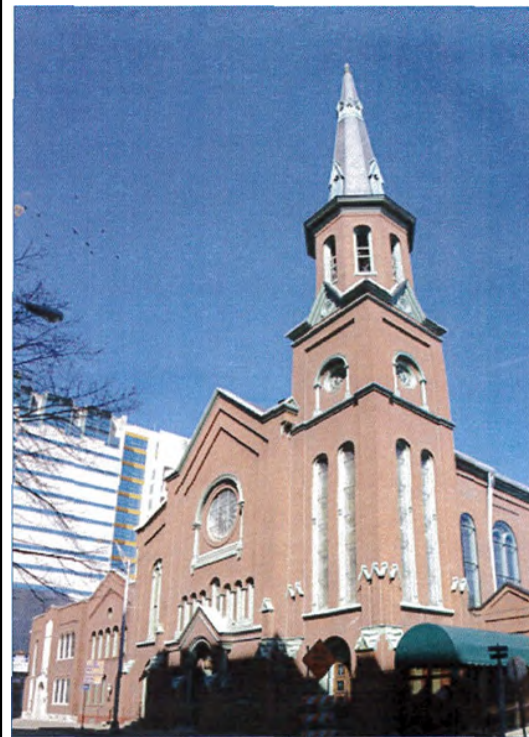


**Free parking is available on Sundays in the Chestnut Street Garage directly across the street. Please see an usher for a validated ticket.*

Rev. Karin E. Pejack, Pastor
Email: pastorpejack@zionharrisburg.org

Historic Zion Lutheran Church

*Celebrating over 225 Years of
Christian Ministry since 1787*



15 S. 4th Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101

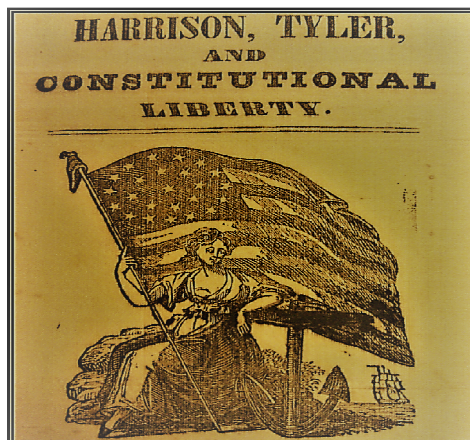
Phone: 717.234.4064
Email: info@zionharrisburg.org
Website: www.zionharrisburg.org

Office Hours: 9:30am-1:30pm M-F

Zion Lutheran Church of Harrisburg has had a long and distinguished history of service and Christian ministry. From hosting a Presidential convention, civil war troops, Vietnamese refugees and the homeless, to proclaiming the Gospel of salvation in our Lord Jesus Christ through study, music and worship, we have endeavored to be a beacon of hope in our community for over 225 years. There are many opportunities to grow and serve here at Zion—we welcome you to be a part of our family!

A Brief History of Zion

In 1787 a plot of land was set aside at 3rd and Chestnut Streets by the Harris family, with the intention that it be used to erect a place of worship for the substantial Germanic population of Harrisburg. At the rear of the lot a log structure, built by members of the Lutheran and Reformed faith to share as a union congregation, was given the name St. Joseph's. By 1795, the union was dissolved, but both groups continued to share the same building. In 1813, the Lutheran congregation secured a piece of land on South 4th Street, between Market and Chestnut Streets (the present location of the congregation). By 1815, the first church building, named Zion, was completed, but it only stood until October 21, 1838 when it was consumed by a fire which started in an adjacent lumber mill. The members of the congregation resolved to rebuild, and the second structure was consecrated in November of 1839. The following month, Zion hosted the presidential nominating convention of the Whig Party. Although he was not present, William Henry Harrison was selected as the nominee and later won the presidential election of 1840.

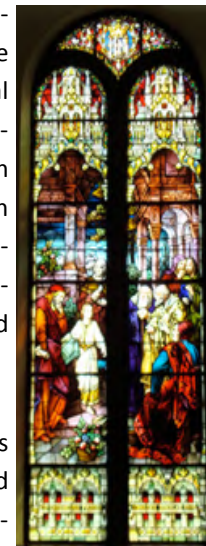


During the Civil War, Zion and its members played a significant role on the home front. The church served as a rest station for soldiers, and Pastor Charles Hay organized the members to volunteer in the building of fortifications around the city. In 1867, due to wear-and-tear and an increase in membership, the building received a facelift. The steeple was moved from the front and center of the building to its present location, and the front narthex was added along with the choir loft.



Further additions were made in 1916, with the addition of the church house, and in 1950 with the Keller building and chapel.

The windows of Zion's sanctuary are the third type to be placed there. The original clear panes of 1839 were replaced in 1867 by green stained glass (still present in the narthex). The current picture windows were placed sporadically between 1902 and 1927.



In the early 1970's, refugees from Vietnam were relocated to central Pennsylvania. Members of Zion supported a group of four refugees until they were able to find work and housing of their own. Members and descendants of these families are still involved with our congregation. During the 1990's, Zion joined other downtown churches in hosting an overnight shelter during the winter months. The congregation also contributed to the building of Susquehanna Harbor Safe Haven, just off of North Cameron Street, where the winter overnight shelter is currently housed.



Worship and Music

Gathering around the Word of God in worship and prayer is central in the life of our church family. Members and friends of the congregation share their gifts in worship in a variety of ways, including singing in the choir, reading Scripture, assisting with communion, ushering, and caring for the altar.