

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

Needed items for each kit:

- 1 dark colored lightweight bath towel (52 x 27)
- 1 toothbrush in the packet
- 1 comb package removed (heavy duty no picks or fine toothed combs _)
- 1 nail clippers with file (no toe nail clippers)
- 2 to 3 bars of soap each 4 or 5 ounces

List of needed items on the display table and where some of the least expensive places are to obtain needed items.

Boscov's:

Boscov's will again have their Friends Helping Friends day on **Tuesday, October 22, 2024 from 8am to 11 pm**. This is the best sales they have all year with:

- 25%. Off most clothing ,coats, shoes and handbags
- 15% off fragrances, cosmetics and fine jewelry
- 10% off toys , some furniture and small household appliances

You must have a shopping pass to participate in the sales. Jeanette Beck has the passes. They are \$ 5.00 which will go to the ALS United Mid Atlantic. See Jeanette if you want a pass. Have a great day shopping.

Community Meal:

We will be doing our last community meal of the year on **Thursday, October 24, 2024** at 6 pm at Bethany United Church of Christ. Our menu will be coleslaw, chicken ala king on biscuits, green beans, coffee, tea, water ,lemonade and apple pie with ice cream for dessert. We will need people to supply the food , prepare the food, set up, serve and clean up. All help will be greatly appreciated. Any questions talk or call Jeanette Beck at 717-733-0897. See the sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex.

Future Reconciling In Christ gathering dates to keep in mind:

- October 27th: Educational Forum
- January 19th: Panel Discussion
- February, at the Zion Annual Meeting, there will be a congregational vote on becoming an RIC congregation.

Sundays After Pentecost September 22, 2024



Zion Lutheran Church

435 Main Street, Akron PA 17501 717. 859. 2100

Check our website: www.zionakron.org and
Facebook page.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today we hear James warn against selfish ambition, while the disciples quarrel over which one of them is the greatest. Jesus tells them the way to be great is to serve. Then, to make it concrete, he puts in front of them a flesh-and-blood child. We are called to welcome the children God puts in front of us, to make room for them in daily interaction, and to give them a place of honor in the assembly.

GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
whose steadfast love is everlasting,
whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

C Amen.

P Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

C Reconciling God,

**we confess that we do not trust your abundance,
and we deny your presence in our lives.**

We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts.

We fail to believe that you provide enough for all.

We abuse your good creation for our own benefit.

We fear difference and do not welcome others

**as you have welcomed us. We have been silent and apathetic in the
face of racial intolerance and bigotry, both overt and subtle, public
and private.**

We sin in thought, word, and deed.

**By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your
Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life.**

Amen.

P Beloved of God,

by the radical abundance of divine mercy
we have peace with God through + Christ Jesus,
through whom we have obtained grace upon grace.
Our sins are forgiven.

Let us live now in hope.

For hope does not disappoint,

because God's love has been poured into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

We hope this curriculum inspires your congregation or community to enter into deeper relationship with Christ and our neighbors, and to be bolder in calling out forces that breed misinformation and violence. May we always seek to answer the call of Christ to be with and love our neighbor, this year and always.

To see more information and to register go to Zion's weekly newsletter or website.

Sunday Learning Group:

We are excited to announce that the Sunday Morning Learning Group will be studying Brian McLaren's *We Make The Road By Walking* beginning Sunday, September 29th at 11:15 am at Jennifer and Brian Frey's home at 623 Buchanan Drive, Ephrata.

As McLaren comments on this book "Christian faith is still "in the making". It continues to grow, evolve, learn, change, emerge, and mature ... in and through us. What we will be as Christians in the 21st century, for better or worse, will surely change what Christian faith will be in the 22nd century and beyond. So, with that in mind, I wanted to introduce people to a vision of the Christian faith and the biblical narrative not as a box, set in stone, and not as a parking lot (where we await the ferry to heaven), but as a road ... that is extended into the future by all of us, walking forward in the Spirit together." Through scripture, reflection and discussion we will explore Christian faith and our own spirituality.

Come join us as we walk wisely and joyfully into the future of our faith together, learning, growing and changing, journeying together to make the road.

Lutheran World Relief:

Zion will again participate in the Lutheran World Relief appeal during the months of August and September with the ingathering of supplies to make personal care kits. We made 230 kits last year. Can we make 200 kits this year? During August and September we will gather the needed items and keep a running total so you know what is still needed each week. Then on Sunday, **October 6th** we will gather downstairs after church to assemble the kits in the fellowship hall. After the kits are assembled we will share a meal together.

CIRCLE OF PRAYER

Karen Ainsley, Tim Ainsley, Ron Ayers, Suzanne Baumgardner, Bonnie Bleacher, Kirsten Blose and family, Stephanie Cambell, Arthur Drescher, Tracy Fox and family, Tim Hertzog, Lois Hicks, Len and Janet Hoffman, family and friends of Skip Kopp, Phil Lehman and his sister Karen, Jacob Longenecker, Linda Losito, Susan Mindermann, family and friends of Paul Moore, Gisela Pilarte, Nancy Reber, Marie Rosati, Shirley Royer, Michael Royer, Judy Schaffer, the family of David Schwalm, Dale Shepherd, Jerry Solomon, Dayton Stauffer, Martha Weidman and family, Cale Ziegler

COMING UP NEXT

Every Wednesday, 8:15-9:30 am: Morning Meditation.

September 22, 11:15am: Rail Trail Church. Meet at Warwick TWP Building in pavilion.

September 23-27: Saralyn off.

September 29, 11:15am: Sunday Learning Group. Meet at Jennifer and Brian Frey's home at 623 Buchanan Drive, Ephrata.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lessons from Dietrich Bonhoeffer in a House Divided and a World on Fire:

Facilitated by Pastor Matt

Every Wednesday evening in October

6:30pm at Zion Lutheran Church

Here is a brief introduction to the curriculum:

Through our work at the intersection of civic life and faith, we often encounter a Church and world grappling with deep divisions and deep questions about what it means to be disciples of Jesus Christ. How does one hold onto their convictions while staying in relationship with their neighbor? How does one engage passionately and peacefully?

What is the most faithful path to take where hatred and spite seem to reign?

Continued on next page.

GATHERING HYMN “Gather Us In” (ELW 532)



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen
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GREETING

P The unrelenting grace, unfailing love, and indescribable peace of God, the Father, Son +, and Holy Spirit dwell in your hearts through faith.

C And also in your heart.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

P May the God of all creation, the one who raised + Jesus from the dead, the one who sends the Holy Spirit upon us, raise you to new life, fill you with hope, and turn your mourning into dancing.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG “Children of the Heavenly Father” (ELW 781)



Tryg - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra än Guds lil - la bar - na - ska - ra,

- 1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;
- 2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour - ish.
- 3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;
- 4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth;



stjär - nan ej på him - la - fäs - tet, få - geln ej i kän - da näs - tet.

nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
 From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.
 un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.
 his the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958
 Music: TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA, Swedish folk tune
 Text © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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DISMISSAL

A Go in peace, love your neighbor as yourself.

C In the name of Jesus, we will!

From sundaysandseasons.com.

COMMUNION SONG “Jesus Love Me!” (ELW 595)



1 Je - sus loves me! this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so;
2 Je - sus loves me! he who died heav - en's gates to o - pen wide;
3 Je - sus loves me! he will stay close be - side me all the way;



lit - tle ones to him be - long, they are weak, but he is strong.
he will wash a - way my sin, let his lit - tle child come in.
when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high.

Refrain



Yes, Je - sus loves me, yes, Je - sus loves me,



yes, Je - sus loves me, the Bi - ble tells me so.

Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820–1915, alt.
Music: JESUS LOVES ME, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

BLESSING

P The body and blood of Christ Jesus give you hearts of courage, souls of peace, minds of wisdom, and strength for service in his name.

C Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Let us pray: Jesus, Bread of life,

C We have received from your table the gift of your abundant and eternal life. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world as your body given and shared for the well-being of all. In your name we pray. Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 11:18-20

Today's reading tells of the suffering of the prophet Jeremiah, who announced God's word to Judah but was met with intense opposition and persecution. Jeremiah continues to trust in God in the midst of his suffering.

18It was the Lord who made it known to me, and I knew;
then you showed me their evil deeds.

19But I was like a gentle lamb
led to the slaughter.

And I did not know it was against me
that they devised schemes, saying,

“Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,
let us cut him off from the land of the living,
so that his name will no longer be remembered!”

20But you, O Lord of hosts, who judge righteously,
who try the heart and the mind,
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.

R Word of God, Word of life,

C Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: James 3:13—4:3, 7-8a

The wisdom God gives unites our hearts and minds. Instead of living to satisfy our own wants and desires, we manifest this wisdom in peace, gentleness, mercy, and impartiality toward others.

13Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. 14But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. 15Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. 16For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. 17But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. 18And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

4:1 Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? 2 You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. 3 You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8a Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

R Word of God, Word of life,
C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION “Halle, Halle, Hallelujah” (ELW 172)

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Music: Caribbean traditional

GOSPEL: Mark 9:30-37

P The holy gospel according to Mark.
C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus' teaching and action in this text are directed to the church whenever it is seduced by the world's definition of greatness: prestige, power, influence, and money. The antidote to such a concern for greatness is servanthood.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Taste and see that the Lord is good.

C **Blest are all invited to the feast.**

COMMUNION

We practice the ancient rite of the Lord's Supper every week. All people who hunger for God's grace and peace in their lives are welcome to receive the bread and cup. Please come forward in the center aisle, take an empty cup, kneel at the altar, and return by the side aisle. In this meal, you are joined with Christ, your sins are forgiven, and you receive God's strength for daily life. We are sent from the table to serve others in his name. We offer gluten free bread and grape juice, as an alternative to the bread and wine, for those who require or prefer it. All are fed at the table of grace!

LAMB OF GOD (ELW 195)

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you

C And also with you

P Lift up your hearts

C We lift them up to the LORD.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give God thanks and praise.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

The pastor gives thanks to God for the gifts of creation, for the cross of Christ and the means of salvation, for the bread and cup that become His body and blood, and for the Holy Spirit, sent to dwell in our hearts and minds by faith. 'Eucharist' literally means 'thanksgiving' and so we come to the table with thankful hearts lifted up to God, the giver of life.

We hear the instructions of St. Paul to the Corinthian church on celebrating the Lord's Supper; and we hear the words of Jesus to his disciples: "Take and eat, take and drink, this is my body, this is my blood, given and shed for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Trust that Christ is present for you in this meal.

LORD'S PRAYER

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**C Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever.
Amen.**

30[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it;31for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." 32But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

33Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" 34But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. 35He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." 36Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, 37"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON The Rev. Dr. Matt Lenahan

HYMN OF THE DAY "O Master, Let Me Walk with You" (ELW 716)



1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with you in low - ly
2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,
3 Teach me your pa - tience; share with me a clos - er,
4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the



paths of ser - vice true; tell me your se - cret;
win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward
dear - er com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith
fu - ture's broad - 'ning way, in peace that on - ly



paths of ser - vice true; tell me your se - cret;
 win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward
 dear - er com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith
 fu - ture's broad - 'ning way, in peace that on - ly



help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
 feet to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.
 sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong,
 you can give; with you, O Mas - ter, let me live.

Text: Washington Gladden, 1836–1918, alt.
 Music: MARYTON, H. Percy Smith, 1825–1898

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.**
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to the dead.*
 On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**
**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting.**
Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*We pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need of God's compassionate mercy saying: gracious Spirit, **hear our prayer.***

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you.

C And also with you.

We share a sign of peace with one another; a hug. Handshake, and the words "peace be with you".

OFFERING

*We receive an offering for the mission and ministry of the church. Your gifts support weekly worship, pastoral ministry, and service to those in need locally and globally. **Please deposit your gifts in the offering plate located on the stand in the back of the sanctuary.** You may also give online at www.zionakron.org.*

OFFERING SONG "Accept O Lord, the Gifts We Bring" (ELW 691)



1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.
 2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They grew in your good plea - sure.
 3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be - fore you.



We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
 What once was com - mon, dail - y food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.
 Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, b. 1957
 Music: BARBARA ALLEN, English folk tune
 Text © 1990 Augsburg Fortress

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