

THE HERALD

OCTOBER 2023



Zion Lutheran Church
zionyork.org
(717) 767-4673

Zion Lutheran Church

Reaching Up, Reaching Out, Reaching In, with Faith and Love

Rev. Dr. Janyce C. Jorgensen x. 2224

Lead Pastor

jjorgensen@zionYork.org

Phone: 717-817-1331

Office Hours: Tuesday and Wednesday

Chuck Bissell x. 2246

Director for Family Faith Formation and Youth Ministry

cbissell@zionYork.org

Phone: 717-891-3426

Denise Moyer, Parish Administrator x. 2240

dmoyer@zionYork.org

Curry Smith, Parish Administrative Assistant x. 2221

info@zionYork.org

Shawn Cummings, Digital Media Coordinator

avteam@zionYork.org

Laine Knaub, Director of Music x. 2243

lknaub@zionYork.org

Andrew Strittmatter, Director of Windswept

andrew.stritt@gmail.com

Arieta Beamesderfer, Director of Joyful Noise Preschool x. 2241

joyfulnoise@zionYork.org

Facebook Page: ZionYork

Twitter: @ZionYork

Instagram: ZionYork2215

YouTube: ZionYork2215

Office Hours

Monday through Thursday: 9:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m.

Closed Friday



A Message from our Pastor

Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions I give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything I will pay back four times as much." Then Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house..." Luke 19:8-9a

Dear Siblings in Christ,

During this month of October, you are going to hear a lot about "Building a Culture of Generosity"- it's the name of our stewardship emphasis and program. There are nine members of Zion who are serving on our Generosity team and we're excited to lead and to share with you the important work of building such a culture here at Zion. Actually, we are already a generous congregation and culture (thank you so much!) and we're looking to build upon and grow in our generosity, as we prayerfully embark on this journey.

One of the tasks this October is for the pastor to share her generosity story, and to inspire in the process. I may not know in this moment how my story intersects with yours, or how my story will impact yours; I do hope and pray that, in sharing my story, we will continue to share our stories of generosity as we grow together.

I honestly don't have a profound childhood memory of my family's story of generosity. I grew up in the church and we were active in membership, including all of the church's activities. We gave of our time, talents and possessions and did so joyfully. I do remember that, as a youth, I was the treasurer of our youth group, and I carried our monies back and forth from my home to our meeting in a Pringles can!

Here are a couple of other stories which have, in the course of my life, inspired generosity for me. The first is from when I was newly ordained as a pastor and served in the Virginia Synod of our denomination (the then newly- formed Evangelical Lutheran Church in America). Our Bishop told a story of his upbringing and being given an allowance- ten dimes. He kept his dimes in a cigar box, and on Sundays he would take one dime out of the box for his church offering. Reflecting on this practice, the Bishop said, "And I got to keep the other nine dimes- considering that God gives me everything I have, I thought that was a great deal!"

The other story is the biblical story of Zacchaeus, which I quoted above. You may know the story of Zacchaeus, the tax collector, who was short in stature and when Jesus came to town, he wanted so much to catch a glimpse of Jesus that he climbed up in a tree. When Jesus noticed Zacchaeus, he told him to come down from the tree, and Jesus came into Zacchaeus' home. Zacchaeus was so moved by Jesus' presence, that he offered half of his possessions to be given to the poor and promised to right any wrongs in his life (particularly the ways he defrauded others for his own financial gain).

I am inspired by these stories, not because of the percentages that were given (10% and 50%); rather I am inspired because both stories express how the profound awareness of God with us through Jesus Christ can indeed change us, and transform our lives. When we are aware that God is present in all things, we can't help but to be grateful. And when we're grateful, we want to share our gratitude. And when we share our gratitude, we can't help but to be generous.

So, what's your generosity story? I look forward to hearing them throughout this month of October, and always, as we inspire one another and grow together.

Your Sister in Christ,
Pastor Janyce





Faith Formation

Adult Bible Studies

Sundays

9:00 AM—9:45AM

Reading thru the Bible

This group is reading through the Bible. Join them in Zion's Parlor!

Life with Jesus

This class meets in the choir room & will spend 6 to 7 weeks completing the study of the Sermon on the Mount, which is Matthew, chapters 5-7.

Gather and Grow

Monday,

October 23

6:00 PM

Join us around the Firepit (weather permitting) to learn and discuss what the Bible has to say on Christian Fellowship. This month we will focus on "Givers of Courage". Sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex, verses used for discussion will be emailed ahead of time.

Lunch Bunch

October 18

12:00 Noon

Join Pastor Janyce at Friendly's on Loucks Rd for food & faithful discussion.



Music Scholarships

ENDING SOON

Zion has two music scholarships available to help cover the cost of lessons. Any K-12 students currently taking private instrument or voice lessons may apply for the *Jeanette*

Everhart Music Scholarship. The *Yvonne Falkenstine Scholarship* is audition based, and geared towards vocalists 20 years old and younger that also would like financial assistance with the cost of lessons. Applications are available now in the Narthex on the Music bulletin board and **due by October 8th, 2023**.

Children, Youth & Family Ministry



Oh, if you could only see the giant smile on my face as I am typing this article. I am coming off of our 2nd week of Faith Formation and our first month of the Youth Group Sunday. I also have Alive 2023 happening this weekend. I am completely in my element right now.

I want to give a shoutout to the families that have supported the faith formation and the youth groups by sending your kids to these things. Their attendance and participation are what makes these Sundays so much fun and completely worth the 12 hour day once per month. The amount of support that has come from the congregation doesn't go unnoticed. It is through the volunteering and donating that keeps us able to have such strong programs for our youth inside and outside of these church walls.

October is going to be another blockbuster month. We will have Youth Group Sunday on October 15th. The sign-up sheets are in the Fellowship Hall so make sure you get your children signed up. We also have the Trunk or Treat event happening on October 22nd. As I have mentioned during Zest for Zion we had a huge turnout last year and I can't see why it would be any smaller this year. We will need more decorated cars this year to handle the larger numbers. There is a "sign up genius" available for those who can sign up online. There will also be a signup sheet for our "analog" friends in the Fellowship Hall. Let's get these spaces filled.

We will wrap October with new Bibles being handed out to those young people beginning their Confirmation studies and the Affirmation of Baptism for five others that have completed their studies. This will all occur at the 10am service on October 29th. These students have embraced their studies and have a really good idea of what it takes to live into their faith. I can see them setting the example for those younger than them (and for a lot of us as well) moving forward. The one thing that we make sure to instill in those being affirmed is that this is not the end. This is one step in their lifelong faith journey.

God's blessings on all of you for a great October

~ Chuck



15
Oct 11:30 Kidz Konnection
3:00 456
6:00 ZLCY

22
Oct 6pm Trunk or Treat

29
Oct 10am Affirmation of Baptism

12
Nov 11:30 Kidz Konnection
3:00 456
6:00 ZLCY



Bring your children to enjoy an evening of Halloween fun!



**Sunday, October 22
6-8:00pm**

Bring your decorated car and hand out treats to the children in our community! Sign your car up at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040C45A5AF2BAAF85-2022# or sign up the analog way in the fellowship hall.

Volunteers are needed to help set-up/teardown, direct traffic, make/tend a fire and help with hot dogs and drinks

Candy donations are welcome! Please bring your candy donations to the church by October 22nd and place in the marked box in the Narthex.

Joyful Noise News

OCTOBER EVENTS

10/9 & 10/10

PICTURE DAY!



10/17 & 10/18

Music with Miss Laine

10/24 to 10/31

Classroom Halloween Parties!

SATURDAY, 10/14
2nd Annual Fall Fun Fest
10AM—Noon

**tickets available by contacting*
Joyfulnoise@zionyork.org

 *Autumn*  **B L E S S I N G S** 

Joyful Noise News

Our 2nd Annual Fall Fun Fest is being held on Saturday, October 14th. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank the amazing people that were instrumental in helping this event be such a huge success! Robyn Randall; The Joyful Noise Preschool Board of Directors; & all of our JNP Families & Friends who volunteered their time, donations, or signed up to participate in the event.

And to our wonderful & generous sponsors and donors— a
HUGE THANK YOU!!!

Thank you for your support of Early Childhood Education!



MACRO ADVISORS, INC.





Birthdays of the Month

- 1 Kate Anderson
Sherri Ierley
Charlie Scott
- 3 Taryn Stein
- 4 Katherine Arnold
Sheryl Pickerill
Susan Renz
Heather Saullo
- 5 Dylan Bricker
Greg Leib
Sophie Schneider
- 6 Ronald Kline
- 7 Kenneth Gardner
Cheryl Kirby
Erik Peckmann
- 8 Conner Ream
Brenda Swaltek
Ryan Troup
- 9 Judy Anderson
Cameron Kessler
- 11 Rodney Brandstedter
Lance Fisher
Jeremy Harris
Amy Wannemacher
Shanna Wise
- 12 Tara Brosend

- Austin Mohn
- Brandon Mohn
- William Robinson
- Dan Wise
- 13 Stella Unger Szostak
- 15 Jasmine Barclift
Nathaniel Young
- 16 Michelle Sine
- 17 David Walker
- 18 Asher Turnbaugh
- 19 Sharon Kershaw
- 21 Ronald Reinecker
Kelly Townsley
- 22 Elinor Achaj
Katelynn Strittmatter
- 23 Max Rishel
Joe Sierotowicz
Lori Wise
- 24 Sarah Altland
Connor Bucks
Rhonda Gardner
- 25 Reese McKinley
Richard Ziegler
- 26 Robert Brown
- 27 Julie Aguirre
John Moyer
Keith Plowman
- 29 Linnea Bradford
Joan Weaver
- 30 Blake Collingsworth
Doreen Meeker
Erin Villarose
Landyn Yeaple
- 31 Elijah Lutz

Happy Anniversary

- 1 Dallas & Tammy Barclift
Matt and Karen Engleman
Scott and Sherri Ierley
- 2 Scott & Nicole Nadzom
- 4 Nathan and Christine Bucks
Kevin and Tammy Holtzapple
William and Patti Vollmer
- 6 Charlie & Christine Scott
- 9 Kevin and Lisa Drawbaugh
- 10 Rick & Kim Gruver

- 12 Chad and Jill Bohannon
Bruce & Lori Brown
- 16 David and Erin Ream
- 17 Dan & Lori Heathcote
- 20 Don & Jennifer Dreisbach
Barry and Theresa Troup
- 25 Donald and Kathleen Lloyd
Michael and Jessica Rader
- 27 Rocky and Sara Turnbaugh
- 30 Jason and Whitney Barshinger

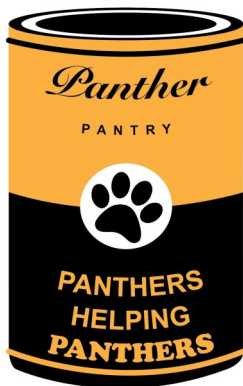
Help Feed the Hungry Donations Welcome!

Every item donated makes a difference. Help the Central York Panther Pantry collect items for the pantry! The Panther Pantry distributes food and household items to Central families each month. Bring any items on the list to church on **Saturday, October 28 or Sunday, October 29.**

There will be a collection spot in the parking lot.

The pantry is in need of the following non-perishable items:

- Peanut butter
- Cereal
- Macaroni and cheese
- Granola Bars/Granola
- Pasta Sauce
- Pasta
- Tuna
- Laundry detergent
- Personal Care: shampoo, body wash, toothpaste



Your support is appreciated! ~ The Panther Pantry



York Conference of Lutherans Working Together to Support the Mission of Christ's Church

The York Conference of Lutherans Tutoring Program assist elementary grade students in grades 1-6 with homework; reading with them, help them learn spelling, and math facts. If you like young people and want to make a difference in the life of a young person, then this is for you!!!

Tutoring Program needs:

- Tutors, ages 15 and up to work one-on-one with students on Monday or Tuesday evenings during the upcoming school year! Tutors over 18 must apply for clearances, but there is no charge to you as a volunteer. Can't commit every week? We always need substitutes! Interested? Contact Shari Young at ycltutoring@gmail.com or 717-586-9310 for more information.
- Meal makers—make a meal for about 40 students and drop it off at Christ Lutheran, Zion's dates are Nov 13, Feb 12 and April 8. Interested? Contact Pastor Janyce jjorgensen@zionyork.org.

October 2023

Mon		Tue
1 <i>Pentecost 18</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worship Times In-person: 8 am and 10 am • Adult Faith Formation-9am • Worship Times Online Livestream *Facebook/YouTube-10:00 am 	2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LOF Rehearsal – 6:30pm 	3
8 <i>Pentecost 19</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worship Times In-person: 8 am and 10 am • Faith Formation-9am • Worship Times Online Livestream *Facebook/YouTube-10:00 am • Confirmation Info Session-11:15am 	9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LOF Rehearsal – 6:30pm 	10
15 <i>Pentecost 20</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worship Times In-person: 8 am and 10 am • Faith Formation-9am • Worship Times Online Livestream *Facebook/YouTube-10:00 am • Kidz Konnection-11:30am to 1:30pm • Club 456– 3 to 4:30pm • Jr/Sr High Youth Group-6 to 8:30pm 	16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LOF Rehearsal – 6:30pm 	17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Meeting-7pm
22 <i>Pentecost 21</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worship Times In-person: 8 am and 10 am • Faith Formation-9am • Worship Times Online Livestream *Facebook/YouTube-10:00 am • Trunk or Treat 6 to 8 pm 	23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gather & Grow-6pm • LOF Rehearsal – 6:30pm 	24
29 <i>Reformation Sunday</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worship Times In-person: 8 am and 10 am • Faith Formation-9am • Worship Times Online Livestream *Facebook/YouTube-10:00 am 	30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LOF Rehearsal – 6:30pm 	31

Wed		Thu		Fri		Sat	
4		5		6		7 • Worship- 5:30pm	
11		12		13		14 • Worship- 5:30pm	
18 • Lunch Bunch Friendly's-12noon		19		20		21 • Worship- 5:30pm	
25		26		27		28 • Worship- 5:30pm	
						Deadline to submit items for the November Herald is October 14.	

Lectionary Scriptures for October



October 1, 2023

The gospel reading for this coming Sunday includes a short parable for all of us who have sometimes said No to God, and then later regretted it. Come to worship, to hear about God's welcome to us and to receive that welcome at the table of holy communion.

Readings and Psalm

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Psalm 25:1-9

Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love. (Ps. 25:6)

Philippians 2:1-13

Matthew 21:23-32

October 8, 2023

One definition of a parable is "an earthly story with a heavenly meaning." The gospel for this coming Sunday is a parable about a vineyard, but we understand that the story is really about the call to accept and honor Christ as our master. Come on Sunday to worship Christ, the Son of God, the cornerstone who secures our lives.

Readings and Psalm

Isaiah 5:1-7

Psalm 80:7-15

Look down from heaven, O God; behold and tend this vine. (Ps. 80:14, 15)

Philippians 3:4b-14

Matthew 21:33-46

October 15, 2023

We don't invite strangers to our wedding banquets, but God does. Come to worship with us this coming Sunday. Join with millions of strangers, all around the world, who come to be filled with God's mercy.

Readings and Psalm

Isaiah 25:1-9

Psalm 23

You prepare a table before me, and my cup is running over. (Ps. 23:5)

Philippians 4:1-9

Matthew 22:1-14

October 22, 2023

Christians around the world have differing opinions about how high their taxes should be. Yet most churches have taught that believers should support their government, at least when it is functioning honorably. Come to worship this Sunday, to hear Matthew's words about allegiance to country and to God, and join with the community to pray for wisdom to be God's people in our time and place.

Readings and Psalm

Isaiah 45:1-7

Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]

Ascribe to the Lord honor and power. (Ps. 96:7)

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Matthew 22:15-22

October 29, 2023

Two of the readings this coming Sunday include the words, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." What does this actually mean in our daily lives? Come to worship, to meditate upon the word of God and to join in the meal of fellowship and forgiveness.

Readings and Psalm

Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18

Psalm 1

Their delight is in the law of the Lord. (Ps. 1:2)

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

Matthew 22:34-46



Zion Lutheran Council Meeting August 15, 2023

Attendance:

Al Abruzzese, Kim Alloway, Christy Bucks, Andrew Doerr, Trevor Hoffman, Pastor Janyce Jorgensen, Jill Lordan, Denise Moyer, Regina Peckmann, Krista Zellers, Wade Markel, Karen Bissell, Jen Morris

Excused/Missing: Amy Schanbacher, Ryan Engleman

July 18, 2023, Meeting Discussion:

Opening Devotions: Andrew Doerr

Andrew summarized things that have been going all year for him and wrapping them together using 1 Timothy as his devotion. Andrew's word/theme for the devotion is Foundation. Andrew feels that God has been with him throughout a difficult week at work. Even though work is an important part of our lives, Andrew emphasized a balance with home life, as well.

For September: Trevor Hoffman

Synod Assembly Report Out (Jen Morris, Wade Markel, Karen Bissell)

Karen: Karen began by summarizing the breakout session she chose to attend. Karen chose Creating Community with Volunteers. Suggestions made during the session:

Short term local mission trip

Laundry love - help with family laundry needs LGBTQIA involvement- making everyone feel welcome Rides for appointments

Coffee/Social Ministry Time/Talent Survey

Home Visitation volunteers

Volunteer Coordinator - paid position?

Karen emphasized that it was so much to take in and a bit overwhelming for a first time attendee. Karen volunteered to attend again in the future, if needed.

Wade: Conference was centered around community. Wade attended the Bold Humility breakout session: Presenter shared about a school in Guatemala surrounded by barbed wire with children in the center planting a tree. A discussion ensued about the meaning of humility.

Wade also attended the Communications as a Community breakout session: The theme was "Feed the sheep rather than count the sheep." How do we reach the believers who do not feel need for a faith community?

Jen: Jen was a first time attendee. Jen was impressed that Bishop Eaton attended this assembly. Jen spoke about the ELCA's commitment to be more inclusive and diverse. A vote was held on a resolution to have at least 10% of the synod assembly be youth/young adults and diverse. This means that Zion may send up to 2 additional members (we currently send 3). The additional members should be young and/or from diverse backgrounds.

Reports

Thank You Cards

Helen Gallagher and Julie Aguire - putting pews back into their positions last Sunday

Jacob Yeaple - painted wooden benches outside Krista will write thank you notes to both noted above.

Minutes From July 2023 (Amy J. Schanbacher)

A motioned to approve the minutes with the revision to change the date of the next meeting to August 15, 2023 was made by Andrew Doerr. Seconded by Al Abruzzese. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report (Wade Markel)

Last month's Treasurer's Report was not voted on since Andrew questioned the surplus/deficit differences in May and June. The numbers from the May and June financial statements did not match. The June financials were correct. The May financials for deficit/surplus were per month not for the year. The corrected June report (May financials stated: We are in the 5th month of the year.

That would equal 42% of the year complete. Total income for May: \$30,995.74 which is 101% of budget. May total expense column is \$41,847.34 which is 90% of the May budget. Current surplus/deficit for 2023 is at (\$26,632.37) deficit and we were budgeted to have a (\$24,076.48) deficit at the end of May. August report (July 2023 Financials): We are in the 7th month of the year. This would equal 58% of the year complete. July total income was \$30,070.68 which is 91% of July budget. The July total expense was \$39,232.65 which is 100% of the July budget. Current surplus/deficit for 2023 is (\$47,506.03) deficit and we were budgeted to have a (\$34,289.68) deficit at the end of July. July 2023 surplus/deficit (\$9,161.97) against a budget of (\$6,152.10). Approval of amended May's report and July's report was made by Andrew Doerr. Seconded by Trevor Hoffman. Motion carried.

Investment Treasurer's Report (Trevor Hoffman)

Nothing to approve this evening. Proposed date of August 28, 2023 for presentation of financial institutions for investments. Time is TBA. Council members are invited to attend.

Membership Report (Pastor Janyce)

Nothing to approve this meeting

Pastor Janyce's Report

Report as submitted.

Parish Administrator's Report (Denise Moyer)

Report as submitted.

2 projectors are currently not working. Denise stated the cost of possible solutions:

- Fix one projector and use 2 projectors only: \$1,200
- 3 new Hi-Def with new wiring: \$14,268
- 3 new projectors (not Hi-Def) with current wiring: \$10,200
- 2 new projectors: \$7,157, move the current working projector to the back of the sanctuary

An email motion to vote on proposals will be sent by Thursday.

CYFM Report

Report as submitted.

Old Business

Visioning (Kim)

Survey Results - Approximately 40 returns to date. More information to come.

Potluck - 44 people attended the potluck. Possibility of inviting guests (another church, magician, Emigsville Band) to subsequent potluck gatherings.

Constitution Revision (Denise):

Congregation will vote on the model Constitution (mandatory changes).

Non-mandatory changes need two congregational votes and will not fully be voted on until 2024.

Denise distributed and reviewed all of the proposed changes to the Zion Constitution, By-Laws and Continuing Resolutions. A discussion was held as to whether church committees should produce a quarterly report. A statement concerning quarterly reports will stay in the constitution.

Resolution changes are only voted on by Council and will be discussed at a future meeting.

Church Directory

No report.

Ukrainian Family Update

No report.

Stewardship/Generosity Campaign

No report.

Call Committee Update

Pastor Janyce: All candidates have been interviewed one time. A second interview will be scheduled this week with candidates moving forward. Coordination of council and candidate to meet is in the works - stay tuned.

New Business

Quarterly Council Update

Kim to complete.

Moving JALA Instrument to JALA Campership

Since only 2 instruments have been funded in the past 10 years, a recommendation has been made to move the funds to the "JALA Campership Fund". Motion to change the usage of JALA fund to the JALA Campers' Fund by Andrew Doerr. Seconded by Wade Markel. Motion carried.

2024 Budget (Trevor reporting for Finance Committee)

Trevor thanked Denise for all of her work with the budget. In 2023 there was an approximate deficit of \$70,000. The proposed 2024 deficit is \$101,000. A large unknown for the budget is the newly called pastor (salary and benefits). In 2023 staff did not receive a raise. A 4% increase in salaries is proposed.

New categories in the 2024 budget: confirmation camp \$4630 increase; supply musician \$3300 increase.

The budgeted Income has been kept virtually flat from 2023 to 2024 and we are not on pace to meet the 2023 budget for income. A suggestion was made to set up a Zion Lutheran Venmo account for ease of donations.

Trevor made a suggestion to have a closed session to discuss staffing and 4% increase to salaries. This will occur as part of the September council meeting. Regular meeting will be held 7:00 - 7:30 PM and closed session will begin at 7:30 PM. Denise will be excused from the closed session.

Nominating Committee (Trevor)

Submit names for possible council members to Trevor. Nomination committee, at this time, consists of Trevor, Amy and Jill.

Next Meeting: September 19, 2023, 7:00 PM

Motion to Adjourn: Jill Lordan. Seconded by Al Abruzzese. Motion carried.

Kathy's Coats (and crayons!)

Every winter Kathy would buy coats for local kids. In remembrance of her kind & generous heart we are collecting new & gently used children's coats. We are also in need of crayons, use the QR code below for the wish list.

Thank you for your support!

Kara, Jeremy, Kai, Luca, Juli, Lori, & Karl

*In loving
memory
of our
Mimi,
Kathy
Ciccione*



This coat is
donated in memory
of our Mimi,
Kathy Ciccione



Coats will be donated to the Dover Area SD & the York City SD, & the crayons will go to Junior Achievement

THANK YOU!

Drop off at Zion in the Narthex in marked box

Contact:

hetrick.kara@gmail.com





Zion's Mission Statement

“Reaching up, Reaching out, Reaching in,
with faith and love.”

Services

- Saturday 5:30 PM
- Sunday 8:00 AM
- Sunday 10:00 AM
- Sunday 10:00 AM - Online (YouTube and Facebook)
 - Monday 7:30 PM - Online Prayer Service



Follow us at

Facebook: [ZionYork](https://www.facebook.com/ZionYork)

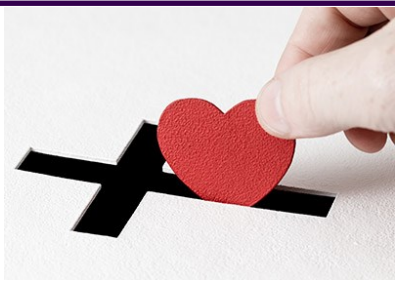
YouTube: [ZionYork2215](https://www.youtube.com/ZionYork2215)

Instagram: [zionyork2215](https://www.instagram.com/zionyork2215)

Twitter: [@zionyork](https://twitter.com/zionyork)

What do we really own?

'Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return there; the Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.' --**Job:1:21**



There's the joke about the nosy neighbor attending a rich woman's funeral. Peering into the coffin with a friend, he asked, "How much money did she leave?" The friend smiled and replied, "All of it, of course!"

As Job laments, we come into the world naked and leave the same way. We may be dressed in our best clothing on our way out, but we take it to the grave, not the afterlife.

The joke and Job reveal a basic concept of stewardship: We don't really own anything. We may take possession of it for a period of time, but we eventually leave it for others.

Yet we spend so much of our energy and life accumulating more and more – as if we were going to have it forever, as we were going to live forever. The danger is that absorbed with accumulating wealth, we shortchange the most valuable treasures – loving the Lord our God with all our being and loving our neighbors as ourselves.

That's why the Bible consistently warns us about wealth. Jesus repeatedly points out the pitfalls. Money and possessions can turn us inward, stunting our growth and preventing us from being the people God created us to be.

Generosity is the preventative cure for this malady. The Bible counsels that tithing – giving away 10 percent of our income – is a good benchmark for faithful giving (although on several occasions Jesus told his disciples to give away ALL their possessions).

Giving 10 percent, or any amount substantial enough to be sacrificial, is a declaration that you are free from the power that money might have over you. Because however much money you can accumulate in life, you will be like the rich woman in the joke: You will leave it all.

--Rob Blezard

Copyright © Rev. Robert Blezard. Used by permission. Pastor Blezard serves part-time as web editor for the Stewardship of Life Institute and full-time as pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, MD.

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Pastor Janyce C. Jorgensen

Kim Alloway- President*
Al Abruzzese - Vice President*
Amy Schanbacher - Secretary*
Regina Peckmann - Assistant Secretary
Andrew Doerr - Parliamentarian
Wade Markel -Treasurer*
Trevor Hoffman - Investment Treasurer

Christy Bucks

Jill Lordan

Krista Zellers

Ryan Engleman - Youth Representative

*Executive Team

Team Chairs

Children, Youth and Family	<i>seeking chair</i>
Christian Fellowship	Erin Ream
Discipleship	<i>seeking chair</i>
Finance	<i>seeking chair</i>
Mutual Ministry	Executive Team
Parish Health	Gina Campbell
Preschool	Lindsay Zimlik
Personnel	Mario Saullo
Property	<i>seeking chair</i>
Service Ministry	Team Lead
Worship and Music	Juliann Roderick

Zion Lutheran Church
2215 Brandywine Lane
York, PA 17404