

The Herald

May 2025



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

Zion Lutheran Church

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

Rev. Kevin C. Stout x. 2224

Pastor

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Phone: 717-877-8721

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday

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Director for Family Faith Formation and Youth Ministry

cbissell@zionyork.org

Phone: 717-891-3426

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Curry Smith, Parish Administrative Assistant x. 2221

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Shawn Cummings, Digital Media Coordinator

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Laine Knaub, Director of Music x. 2243

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Andrew Strittmatter, Director of Windswept

andrew.stritt@gmail.com

Arieta Beamesderfer, Director of Joyful Noise Preschool x. 2241

joyfulnoise@zionyork.org

Office Hours

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

Closed Friday

Services

- Saturday 5:30 PM ~ Gathering, Come As You Are
- Sunday 8:00 AM ~ Traditional: Words, Hymns, Liturgy
 - Sunday 10:00 AM ~ Community Service
 - Sunday 10:00 AM - Online (Facebook)
 - Sunday 12 Noon—Online (YouTube)
 - Monday 7:30 PM - Online Prayer Service



A Holy Conversation: When Two Mothers Met

Dear Sibling in Christ:

During Holy Week, our attention was drawn to the suffering of Christ. But often overlooked are the silent griefs surrounding Him—especially those of His mother, Mary. In this fictional but prayerful reflection, we imagine a tender encounter between Mary and another mother—the grieving, broken-hearted mother of Judas Iscariot.

Though we do not know her name, we know her pain. She, too, lost a son during this sacred week—one to guilt and despair. This imagined dialogue helps us see the Cross not only as a place of pain but as a place where even sorrowing hearts may find grace.

Scripture Meditation:

“The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.” —Psalm 34:18

Dialogue: “When Two Mothers Met”

A fictional reflection inspired by Holy Week

[Setting: A quiet garden outside Jerusalem, after the crucifixion. Mary sits alone. Another woman approaches.]

Mother of Judas: May I sit with you?

Mary: Of course. Sit. The earth is heavy with sorrow today.

Mother of Judas: It is. I feel it pressing on my chest. I—I am the mother of Judas.

Mary: [Jolted, then softens] You are welcome here. You are a mother. And your heart is breaking, like mine.

Mother of Judas: They whisper his name like poison. Judas. I named him for praise, for hope. I raised him to honor God. What have I done?

Mary: You loved him. You watched him grow, just as I did with Jesus. You gave him your heart. That is not failure.

Mother of Judas: But he betrayed your son. Your Jesus. He handed him over with a kiss. [Voice breaking] And then—he took his own life. I have lost him forever.

Mary: [Places her hand gently over hers] We both lost our sons to the darkness of this world. But you must not carry all the blame. Judas made his choice... in fear, in confusion. But no mother should bear the full weight of her child's fall.

Mother of Judas: Do you hate him? Do you hate me?

Mary: No. How could I? Jesus forgave His enemies from the Cross. He would have forgiven Judas too—if only he had let Him.

Mother of Judas: Do you think... there is still mercy for him?

Mary: That is for God to decide. But I believe Jesus never stops seeking the lost. Even Judas.

Mother of Judas: Thank you... for seeing me. Not just as the mother of a traitor, but as a mother. A grieving one.

Mary: We are mothers. And in our sorrow, we are not alone. The Lord is near to the brokenhearted.

Closing Reflection:

In this Easter season, we remember that God's mercy reaches far deeper than human betrayal. Let us pray for all grieving parents, all wayward children, and for hearts broken under the weight of regret. May we be slow to judge, quick to forgive, and always open to the healing power of Christ.

Jesus' Peace,
Pastor Kevin



Faith Formation

Adult Bible Studies

Sundays

9:00 AM—9:45AM

Adult Bible Study Devotion & Dialogue

Each week we discuss the lectionary verses and dive deeper into their meaning in our lives today. Held in the parlor.

Life with Jesus

The 'Life with Jesus' adult Faith Formation class will begin a discussion of the book of Colossians which explains the supremacy of Christ, the fullness of life found in Him, and provides practical wisdom for living the Christian life. Come to learn, and to share your journey. (Find us in the choir room - past the restrooms, on the left.)

Lunch Bunch

May 21

12:00 Noon

Gather at Friendly's located at 423 Loucks Rd, to connect with like-minded individuals, share your thoughts, and deepen your understanding in a welcoming and supportive environment.

Gather & Grow

Monday, May 12

6:00—7:30 PM

Ladies join us for a bible study at Zion. No prep needed just bring a Bible.

Men's Huddle

May 15

7PM

Men, join us at Zion for a time of fellowship, food, and faith as iron sharpens iron. Bring meat to grill and a beverage to enjoy. Pastor Kevin will be leading us in a bible study. Questions contact Matt Engleman or Walt Marriott.

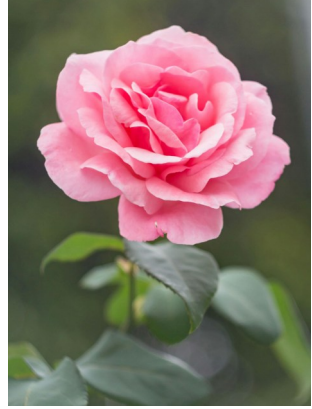


- | | | | |
|----|------------------------|----|-----------------------|
| 1 | Christina Reinhard | | Zachariah Kessler |
| 3 | Grace Kathryn Connolly | 11 | Luke Kessler |
| | Avery Szostak | | Denise Moyer |
| 4 | Susan Belnick | 12 | Linda Cannon |
| | Megan Hoffman | | Garry Smith |
| | Robert Stauffer | 15 | Crystal Collingsworth |
| 5 | Elijah Altland | 16 | Miles Goodling |
| 6 | Matt Brandstedter | | Grace Rishel |
| | Brandy Detwiler | 17 | Kylie Kessler |
| | Jennifer Unger | | Lauren Oberdorf |
| 7 | Andrew Belnick | | William Renz |
| | Rosalie Hartzell | 18 | Emily Wolf |
| | Delores Hoover | 19 | Paige Grothe |
| | Wade Markel | | Amanda Heathcote |
| | Brandon Spickler | 21 | Kristine Cox |
| | Beth Updegrove | | Cheyenne Funt |
| 8 | Ben Chu | | Lindsey Hemmann |
| | Mike Fleming | | Adam Mumma |
| | Evelyn Stein | 22 | Peggy Holland |
| 9 | Chuck Bissell | 23 | Karen Hansen |
| 10 | Blaze Fogle | | Joseph Kotula |
| | | | Avery Rader |
| | | | Dominic Saullo |
| | | 24 | Marci Hemmann |
| | | | Amy Kotula |
| | | 26 | Karl Peckmann |
| | | 27 | Jack Meeker |
| | | 28 | Lisa Drawbaugh |
| | | | Hannah Rishel |
| | | | Nancy Rossi |
| | | 29 | David Schneider |
| | | 30 | Ashley Glezer |
| | | 31 | Ronald Kin |



May Anniversaries

- 3 Joe and Kathy Buckingham
Paul and Delores Hoover
David and Erin Lambert
- 4 Joe and Amy Kotula
Jonathan and Debora Steiner
- 7 J. V. and Fairyn Enderle
- 9 Ricardo and Cathy Aguilar
- 12 David and Susan Belnick
- 14 Beverly and Patrick Strine
- 16 Timothy and Mechelle Shaffer
- 17 Andrew and Melissa Doerr
- 18 Bob and Erin Stauffer
- 19 Jeremy and Jennifer Arnold
Karl and Regina Peckmann
- 20 Mike and Tracy Fleming
- 22 Ron and Linda Reinecker
- 27 Craig and Deborah Rider
- 30 William Robinson and Rebecca Luckenbaugh
- 31 Keith and Allison Brandstedter
Jack and Doreen Meeker
Max and Holly Rishel



THE HERALD
IS
SPONSORED
BY

Pastor Kevin Stout Family

in Memory of Charles E. Stout, II

Children, Youth & Family Ministry



Hello there! This is the week of craziness known as Holy week and I need to get this article done along with the final prep for our Good Friday lock-in and egg hunt on Saturday morning. I typically use this month to “put a bow” on our youth ministry for the 24-25 season with a recap of what has happened and what is still yet to come. I will probably do this again, but I do want to say that the wrap up for this year hits a little different than the past years. Let’s get into it.

April was phenomenal as we held our Good Friday lock-in that led to the Saturday morning egg hunt. With the limited amount of sleep that some of the youth get they truly bring the energy out for the kids that come out for the egg hunt. Speaking of the egg hunt, we had our largest number of participants in the time that I have been serving here. The excitement around this event and all the youth events was amazing. I am expecting great things when it comes to VBS this summer.

As far as upcoming events, May 18th is the last day for faith formation and for youth group. It will be a great day as usual. We will be combining our ZEAL meeting with the youth from St Matthew in York to close out the youth group season. As you are reading this, we will also be in the middle of First Communion lessons for five of our youngest members as they learn what it means when we receive the bread and wine/grape juice during Communion. Those classes began on April 27th, and they run through the last weekend in May. The youth will then receive their first official Holy Communion on June 1st during our 10am service. Please hold these youngsters in your prayers.

Our confirmation youth have one more retreat this year before they are done for the summer. Their retreat is happening May 10th from 9-4 and will be taking place here at Zion. They have had a busy year as they have been reading at our 10am service every Sunday since March. I think this is an important part of their faith journey to be able to read scripture during worship. My hope is that this time of reading encourages them to continue to volunteer over the summer and into the next school year.

One last thing that I want to lift up is Confirmation Camp. We will have 13 youth attending in tracks; three more youth serving as counselors; and Pastor Kevin, Maggie VanBrakle, and myself will be serving in varying track staff. This is the largest number of youth that I have ever had attending this confirmation camp and I am very excited for this week. Camp takes place from June 15th through the 21st. Please hold all of us in your prayers as this is an exciting week but also a very exhausting week.

Peace and Blessings,
Chuck



May

18
11:30 Kidz Konnektion
3:00 456
6:00 ZEAL

May

24-25
Graduate Recognition
Weekend

Jun

1
First Communion

Jun

15-20
Confirmation Camp
@ Camp Nawakwa

Grad Recognition

**May 25
10:00 AM**



Please submit a picture of your graduate along with their name, school they graduated from and future plans to Shawn Cummings at avteam@zionyork.org **by May 18th.**

Joyful Noise News



Our Easter celebrations were so much fun! The children learned about the resurrection of Jesus, and also had fun with the traditions of painting and hunting for eggs, and lots of Easter crafts! Our FLEX classes even held an “egg drop challenge.” Their creations to protect their eggs were so imaginative! We are happy to report that most all the eggs survived!

Our Dance-A-Thon was so much fun!! Bubbles, lights, music, balloons and lots of dancing! This is one of our favorite days!



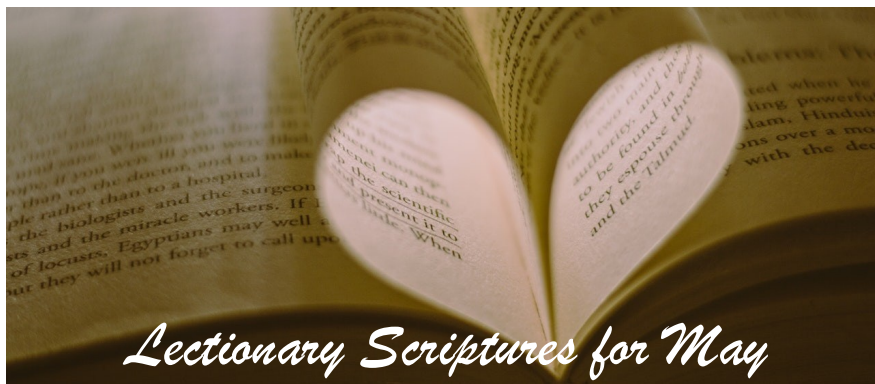
WOW!!! May is here! We continue to be in awe of our students with how much they have grown not only physically, but socially and academically as well.

April was a busy month with our Spirit Week, our Dance-A-Thon, hearing screenings and our Easter Celebrations!

As we finish out the last month of the school year, we will be busy preparing for our graduation ceremony. It is always so hard to say goodbye to the little ones heading to Kindergarten in the fall. We cherish every moment we spend with them!

Thank you for your continued prayers and support for Joyful Noise Preschool!





Lectionary Scriptures for May

May 4, 2025

Easter lasts for fifty days: this coming Sunday is the third Sunday of Easter, and we hear another story of Jesus' appearance after his resurrection. To encounter Jesus here and now, come to worship, to hear the word, to eat with him, and to connect with his body of believers.

Readings and Psalm

Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]

Psalm 30

You have turned my wailing into dancing. (Ps. 30:11)

Revelation 5:11-14

John 21:1-19

May 11, 2025

This coming fourth Sunday of Easter is called Good Shepherd Sunday, since on this Sunday all three years of the lectionary celebrate Christ imagined as a shepherd. We will sing the beloved Psalm 23. Unfortunately, most art depicting the Good Shepherd is unrealistic and sentimental: shepherding was a difficult and dirty job for the men and women who herded the flocks, but sheep were gifts from God and essential sources of life for the people. Join us to thank Christ for being our shepherd.

Readings and Psalm

Acts 9:36-43

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

Revelation 7:9-17

John 10:22-30

May 18, 2025

This coming Sunday is the fifth Sunday of Easter, and our readings testify that God is making all things new. Come to worship, to celebrate the resurrection and to reflect on both what is old and what is new.

Readings and Psalm

Acts 11:1-18

Psalm 148

The splendor of the Lord is over earth and heaven. (Ps. 148:13)

Revelation 21:1-6

John 13:31-35

May 25, 2025

This coming Sunday is the thirty-sixth day of Easter, and so we are still singing some rousing Easter hymns. We continue reading from Acts, Revelation, and John's gospel. Come to worship, to share in the fruits of the tree of life.

Readings and Psalm

Acts 16:9-15

Psalm 67

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy. (Ps. 67:4)

Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5

John 14:23-29



**PRAISE THE
RISEN LORD!**

- EASTER -

May 2025

	Mon	Tue
Deadline to submit items for the June Herald is May 14.		
4 3 Easter Compassion Weekend <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worship Times In-person: 8 am and 10 am • Faith Formation-9am • Worship Times Online <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Facebook/YouTube-10:00 am • First Communion Class –11:30 am to 12:30pm 	5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LOF Rehearsal – 6:30pm 	6
11 4 Easter Mother's Day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worship Times In-person: 8 am and 10 am • Faith Formation-9am • Worship Times Online <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Facebook/YouTube-10:00 am • Team Meetings - 11:30 am 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 • Gather and Grow –6pm • LOF Rehearsal – 6:30pm 	13
18 5 Easter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worship Times In-person: 8 am and 10 am • Worship Times Online <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Facebook/YouTube-10:00 am • First Communion Class –11:30 am to 12:30pm • Kids Koneksi-11:30am to 1:30pm • Club 456– 3 to 4:30pm • ZEAL-6 to 8:30pm 	19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LOF Rehearsal – 6:30pm 	20 Election Day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Meeting- 6:30pm
25 6 Easter Graduate Weekend <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worship Times In-person: 8 am and 10 am • Faith Formation-9am • Worship Times Online <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Facebook/YouTube-10:00 am • First Communion Class –11:30 am to 12:30pm 	26 Memorial Day Office Closed	27

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Compassion Weekend • Worship- 5:30pm
7 • We Are Wednesdays –6:30pm Prayer Group • Grief Share—6:30 –8 pm	8	9	10 • Confirmation Retreat 9am to 4 pm • Worship- 5:30pm
14 • Grief Share—6:30 –8 pm	15 • Men’s Huddle 7 pm	16	17 • Worship- 5:30pm
21 • Lunch Bunch Friendly’s–12noon • We Are Wednesdays –6:30pm Discipleship • Grief Share—6:30 –8 pm	22	23	24 Graduate Weekend • Worship- 5:30pm
28 • We Are Wednesdays –6:30pm Book Club • Grief Share—6:30 –8 pm	29	30	31 Music Weekend • Worship- 5:30pm



May 11

Join us for a special Mother's Day Service as we honor and celebrate the amazing women in our lives!

Women will receive a special gift in appreciation.

Saturday

5:30 PM ~ Gathering, Come As You Are

Sunday

8:00AM ~ Traditional: Words, Hymns, Liturgy

10:00 AM ~ Community Service

Join Us

Summer Sermon Series

All Services June 15 - September 7

Join us this summer
for an inspiring
sermon series on
Modern-Day Saints

Harriet Tubman

"The 'Moses' of Her People" | 14/15 June

Kateri Tekakwitha

"The Lily of the Mohawks" | 21/22 June

Watchman Nee

"If your home is burning, won't you go back in
for the children?" | 28/29 June

Dorothy Day

"How to Become a Saint" | 5/6 July

Mahalia Jackson

"Her Singing was Preaching" | 12/13 July

Bertha Paulssen

"The least of these but Bigger Houses" |
26/27 July

Herman B. Stuempfle, Jr

"Would I have answered when you called" |
2/3 Aug 2022

Oscar Romero

"May the Spirit of the Lord, Disturb YOU" |
9/10 Aug 2022

Martin Luther King, Jr

"I Have a Dream" | 16/17

Mother Teresa

"Humility and Hospitality – Not so Heavy" |
23/24 Aug

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

"BONHOEFFER-The Cost of Discipleship" |
30/31 Aug

For All the Saints

"Faith, Prayer, Love and Service" | 6/7 Sept



Stuff the Bus

We invite you to take part in **Stuff the Bus**, a special collection for **The WELL**, our local nonprofit food pantry that faithfully serves individuals and families right here in our community.



The WELL is more than just a food pantry. This holistic ministry provides emergency food, infant formula, diapers, personal care items, and even help with prescriptions. Every donation directly supports families in crisis—bringing not only relief but a message of hope in difficult times.

- Instant coffee
- Ground coffee
- Quick cooking oats
- Pancake mix
- Instant potatoes
- Canned Fruit
- Jelly

Collection Dates: Weekend of **May 17 & 18** during all services

Location: Zion on the Hill

A representative from The WELL will be present on **Sunday, May 11** to share more about this vital mission.

Help us STUFF THE BUS with love and essential items! Your generosity allows The WELL to continue being “a source of hope in a time of need.”



Thank
You

*Your generosity
Made a difference*

Thank you to all those who contributed to the Panther Pantry in March and April. Not only did you support Dominic's confirmation project, you helped those in need in our local area.

Making Jesus Known in Our Community!



We Are Wednesdays | Book Club

Wednesday | May 28

6:30 PM

Join us for a book club discussion of *The Story She Left Behind* by Patti Callahan Henry—a sweeping, emotional novel about a daughter's journey to uncover the truth behind her mother's mysterious disappearance and the secrets hidden in a language only they understood. Set between 1920s South Carolina and post-war England, this story of love, loss, and literary mystery will keep you turning the pages and leave you longing to talk about every twist. .

Grieving a loss?

Find hope and healing after the death of a loved one.

Join us at

Grief & Share®

When: Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00 p.m.
April 23—July 2

Where: Zion Lutheran Church
2215 Brandywine Lane
York, PA 17404

Contact: Chris Owens
Pcowens.123@gmail.com

Register: <https://www.griefshare.org/groups/261594>

MINUTES :

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

Date: March 15, 2025

IN ATTENDANCE:

- **Pastor Kevin Stout** - Present
- **Denise Moyer, Administrator** - Present
- **Christy Bucks, President** - Present
- **Anmarie Hazelton, Vice President** - Present
- **Andrew Doerr, Treasurer** - Present
- **Sara Strayer, Secretary** - Present
- **Andy Parr, Assistant Secretary** - Present
- **Dave Schneider, Parliamentarian** - Excused/Missing
- **Alex Engleman, Youth Representative** - Present
- **Kelly Kessler, Member** - Present
- **Mary Jane McCluskey, Member** - Present
- **Karl Peckmann, Member** - Present
- **Jim Rowlands, Member** - Present
- **Rose Hartzell, Member** - Excused/Missing
- **Wade Markel** - Excused/Missing

1. OPENING DEVOTION

- Jim Rowlands presented a devotion focused on Jesus's crucifixion. Jesus had completed the work he had been given and remarked "it is finished", willingly absorbing our sins and giving up his spirit.
- Devotion will be led by Karl Peckmann at the next meeting.

2. THANK YOU CARDS

- Jim Rowlands for giving the sermon on March 15/16-to be written by Christy Bucks.

3. MEETING MINUTES AND REPORTS

3.1 The Meeting Minutes from February 2025 were submitted by Sara Strayer

- The minutes noted that the current income fell short by \$5,500 in February 2025, but that date should be changed to January 2025.
- Motion to approve with this amendment by Jim Rowlands, seconded by Kelly Kessler. Motion carried.

3.2 Treasurer's report submitted by Andrew Doerr

- February 2025 Operations (does not include preschool): Receipts (Giving) \$48,022.37, Expenses \$43,390.52, Surplus/Deficit \$4,631.85.
 - ◊ Monthly Budget: Receipts (Giving) \$41,814.81, Expenses \$51,172.44, Surplus/Deficit -\$9,357.63.
 - ◊ YTD Operations: Receipts (Giving) \$97,610.16, Expenses \$93,510.02, Surplus/Deficit \$4,100.14.
 - YTD Budget: Receipts (Giving) \$87,579.98, Expenses \$99,459.32, Surplus/Deficit -\$11,879.34.
- Question if the February monthly budgeted surplus/deficit is truly -\$9,357.63? Denise will pull the budget to confirm.
- The treasurer's report language should be changed from - \$11,879.34 deficit at the end of the year to deficit Year to Date.
- The treasurer's report date of the Church Financial Report January 2025 should be changed from January 2025 to February 2025.
- Electric, gas, and internet were doubled paid due to the schedule of the bills. Therefore, it was noted that internet was not paid in February.
- Motion to approve the amended February Treasurer's Report by Jim Rowlands, seconded by Kelly Kessler. Motion carried.

3.3 Membership report submitted by Pastor Kevin Stout

- No losses, removals, or accessions in February.
- Recommend for membership: Timothy & Mary Vink, Camden & Hudson Lerch, Andrew, Rebecca, Charolette and Emma Wright, Sandy Brown
- Motion to approve by Pastor Kevin, seconded by Mary Jane McCluskey. Motion carried

3.4 Investment Treasurer report submitted by Adam Strayer

- Andrew Doerr shared a request on behalf of the summer mission trip. Based on 27 participants (now 30 participants) lodging will cost about \$4,230 and food will cost \$2,000. Thrivent grant to be used toward costs but asking for church to cover lodging costs.
- Motion to cover \$4,230 lodging costs with domestic mission fund by Andrew Doerr, Seconded by Kelly Kessler. Motion carried

Pastor's Report submitted by Pastor Kevin Stout

- Thank you shared from Lutheran World Relief. A brick recognizing Zion is in Baltimore and a certificate was provided.
- Thank you shared from Lutheran camping corporation for \$500 donation.

- Thank you shared from LifePath for \$1,000 donation.
- 8 refugee families sponsored but still looking for 3 more church sponsors.
- Wade Markel cannot attend the Lower Susquehanna Synod 2025 Assembly, so asking Matt Engleman to go in his place. 6 Zion representatives will be present as voting members: Matt Engleman, Michelle Sine, Karen Bissell, Pastor Kevin, Byam Stout (ESL representative), Alex Engleman (youth representative).
 - Question if Council must elect attendees, based on Constitutional requirement.
 - To meet this requirement, there will be email and announcement notifications at services to Zion voting members for 2 weeks, noting that voting for Assembly members will occur at the end of the 10 am service on April 6. Vote requires 10% of Zion voting members for a quorum.
 - Matt Best, Steve Herr, Joel Folkemer have been nominated for Bishop by conference.
- York Conference voted with regrets for Zion to leave.
- Northern York Conference voted to accept Zion - to begin January 1, 2026.
- Serving as emergency on call for Pastor Schwarz from April 7-May 4.
- Led Lunch Bunch, Discipleship group, Men's Huddle.
- Attended SpiriTrust Board meeting.
- Led worship services at SpiriTrust Sprenkle and SpiriTrust Kelly.
- Attended JNP Board Meeting.
- Attended Legislative Advocacy 101.
- Met with Andrew Strittmatter to discuss Good Friday service-Tenebrae.
- Officiated funeral for Darin Miller.
- Attended YCCF Investment Briefing.
- Participated in Global Refugee Advocacy meeting with Senator Fetterman's office
- This week will participate in a meeting with Scott Perry's office.
- Participated in developing objective with Council members for Inspiring Stewardship and Generosity, Christ Centered Connections, and Infrastructure for Generations.
- Led membership meeting with Mary and Tim Vink.
- Attended Men's Lenten breakfast.
- Led JNP Chapel.

- Led Ash Wednesday services, which went well.
- Visited refugee families' home for meeting about employment, etc.
- Helping as driver, greeter, and child care for ESL program at Union Lutheran Church
- Created curriculum and led training on Leadership and the Executive Director for 3 pastors.
- Led Lent Study: 10 participants at 11am; 45 participants at 6pm.
- Attended Salvation Army Program Committee meeting.
- Question about how Pastor Kevin is feeling related to burnout? He is feeling good and will be taking the week off after Easter.
- Question about what being on emergency call entails? Responding to hospital and/or deaths, but usually there are no calls.

Parish Administrator's Report submitted by Denise Moyer

- Easter push to get 30% (118) more people to attend Easter services, with a goal of 30% (35) of those people to come back for another event or service, and then 30% (10) of those who return to join as members within 12 weeks.
 - Zion members are being asked to invite people to attend a service.
- Christy will take pictures after 8am service on the 9th. Additional opportunities to take photos will be available until Easter. Council members to offer to take pictures for directory. New pictorial directory to be released in June/July.
- Lutheran ELCA God's Work Our Hands is September 7, if any of the Zion Teams would develop activities? Examples-feed homeless, cleaned local parks, cleaned up streets around Union Lutheran, packed blessing bags, Kelly Drive to visit with the residents, invite all refugee families for picnic.

Children, Youth, and Family Ministry (CYFM) report submitted.

No questions or comments.

Question when the lock in is scheduled? Scheduled for April 18.

First communion dates needed .

Youth Representative no questions or comments.

Joyful Noise Preschool Board Report no questions or comments.

4. OLD BUSINESS

Teams Monthly Debrief

- Outreach Team has an outline for new member orientation and new member materials.

Road Map Discussion-Grow 2030

- Objectives were reviewed and to be further examined and developed by task forces:
 - ◇ Christ Centered Connections: Look at current and future community organizations to partner with; VBS for families/adults; JNP mom bible study to start after Easter; women's retreat, family retreat, men's retreat; Valentine's Day date night; increased accessibility to church for door and parking; more restrooms.
 - ◇ Transforming Lives: Small groups and bible studies based on life stages and areas of interests, discipleship classes, more online opportunities; establishing training system for new leaders; measure goal by percentage of participation; point of emphasis on participation of 18–35-year-olds; faith formation for high school students; 6 weeks groups/leveled groups, as well as ongoing groups. Goal of training 6 new leaders each year.
 - ◇ Infrastructure for Generations: Upgrade worship space; build separate recreation building; develop multipurpose facility- conceptual design team to look at plans for rough order of magnitude for estimated costs by November and share with sub task force.
 - ◇ Inspiring Stewardship and Generosity: Continue sharing weekly financial reports with Congregation; keep reading thank you notes in services; new website with page on financials; Financial team suggested to put additional financial information in bulletin on rotating basis (based on when numbers are available); annual Stewardship campaign in October; annual pledge and pledge cards; Financial Peace University; legacy giving seminar (e.g., EMT, Thrivent, funeral director); make signups available at services for SimplyGiving; capital campaign in 2026.
 - ◇ Digital Identity and Presence: Enhance Online Presence-3 new logos to be generated and presented to Council by June 2025, survey and understand best practices of churches with strong digital presence focusing on user experience, content strategy, and web traffic optimization, website rebuild should be initiated by June

2025, brand identity package, ensure brand identity to be used across church. Increase Engagement- understand costs, modernizing live stream experience, podcasts, virtual bible studies, draft plan to be presented by January 2026. Streamline Communication-utilizing digital platforms, staff needs regarding communication, software application changes or expansion Q2 or Q3 ahead of November Congregation meeting.

- Next steps for engaging subgroups: Solicit congregation for interest in subgroups via email and announcements.
 - ◊ Need Grow 2030 Task Force and leader, as well as subgroup members. Interested persons should contact Pastor Kevin.

Update from MJ/Anmarie on potential grant from York County Community Foundation: Investment Committee to get a higher rate of return and then offer ideas from York County Community Foundation to the Infrastructure subgroup.

5. New Business

May Council Meeting falls on the same date as primary election. Council will still meet on May 20 in Sanctuary.

Council Led Easter Sunrise breakfast donations and service

- 2 people to set up, teardown, donations for food (muffins, juices, milk, casseroles, fruit), people to serve food
 - Signup Genius to be distributed by Andrew Doerr.
 - Financial donations welcome.

Congregation Council board updates-Karl and Andy need pictures to be taken on Sunday.

Book Study-Chapter 1 Inward versus Outward Churches in The Art of Hospitality by Yvone Gentile and Debi Nixon

6. Adjourn

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 15, 2025 at 6:30 pm.

Motion to close by Andrew Doerr, seconded by Anmarie Hazelton.
Meeting adjourned in prayer.

Minutes written and respectfully submitted by Sara Strayer, Secretary

THE WELCOME TABLE

Then people will come from east and west, from north and south, and will eat in the kingdom of God.

Luke 13:29

All are welcome, friend and stranger at the banquet of the Savior All are welcome, all are welcome here

"All are Welcome" by Dakota Road



Imagine a long, expansive, banquet table, with a place for everyone at the table. No one is turned away; everyone will enjoy the feast. This is a powerful image of life as people of God. All are welcome- there is always room at the table.

Guiding Principle #1 for our congregation is: As the Body of Christ, we welcome, accept and embrace everyone. With that in mind, we rejoice to be together at the table of our Lord.

We rejoice this month that:

Stephen Leung and Lukas Haney were received into membership through the sacrament of Holy Baptism

Tim and Mary Vink, Sandy Brown, Pastor Tim and Gloria Hoffman were received into church membership.

We also give thanks to God that the expanse of God's table is without end. We trust in the promise of eternal for those who have died:

Ruth Fishel as we pray for comfort for her family .

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Pastor Kevin C. Stout

Christy Bucks - President*

Anmarie Hazelton - Vice President*

Sara Strayer - Secretary*

Andy Parr - Assistant Secretary

Dave Schneider - Parliamentarian

Andrew Doerr -Treasurer*

Adam Strayer - Investment Treasurer

(non-council member)

Rose Hartzell

Kelly Kessler

Wade Markel

Mary Jane McCluskey

Karl Peckmann

Jim Rowlands

Alex Engleman—Youth Representative

*Executive Team

Council Email

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