

Lutheran Church

Phone: 814-695-0091
Office email:
Website:

Office Hours: 8:30AM-3:30PM Tuesday-Friday
office@zionholidaysburg.org
www.zionholidaysburg.org

MID- MARCH & APRIL 2025



Worship

Saturday - 6:00 p.m.

Sunday - 8:00 & 10:45 a.m.

Sunday School

9:30 Sunday School for All Ages

Sundays:

9:00 a.m. NOIZ Rehearsal

Wednesdays:

9:00 a.m. Stitch & Sew

Thursdays:

10:00 a.m. ThuMBS

MARCH HIGHLIGHTS

3/14: Zion Skating & Bowling Night

3/18: Ruth Circle

3/18 & 25: Taize Tuesday

3/19: FaithFormers

3/20: CPC Meeting

3/26: Cr@zy & Cr@zy Lite

3/29: Faith Riders

3/30: First Communion Training

LOOKING AHEAD TO APRIL

4/1,8,15: Taize Tuesday

4/2 & 16: FaithFormers

4/4-5: 7-12th Grade Lock-In

4/6: First Communion Training

4/8: Property Board Meeting

4/9 & 23: Cr@zy & Cr@zy Lite

4/10: Communication Board Meeting

4/13: Palm Sunday

4/15: Ruth Circle

4/17: Maundy Thursday

4/17: CPC Meeting

4/18: Good Friday

4/19: Holy Saturday

4/21: Easter Monday~Office Closed

4/26: Faith Riders

Jesus said to them all, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will save it." ~Luke 9:23-24

Lent offers us a time to focus on discipline through spiritual practices. Historically that means prayer, fasting, alms giving, and good works. Sometimes we think of these spiritual practices as Christian New Year's Resolutions, as a focused time for self-betterment. We try to renew our self-control in the midst of an otherwise indulgent and abundant world that continuously assaults us.

Past self-control there is a more serious side of our Lenten discipline, one that's about finding aspects of yourself that are less than Christ-like and letting them die.

What are the ways in which we resist Jesus' taking the lead in our lives? Do we fight over who is in the driver's seat? Do we shy away from suffering or do we embrace it? Do we find ourselves practicing self-sacrifice or self-indulgence?

I love Eugene Peterson's paraphrases in his Message translation of the Bible: "What kind of deal is it to get everything you want but to lose yourself? What could you ever trade your soul for?"

As we close out our season of Lent, may the suffering and death of Jesus Christ continue to be foremost in our minds, and may we join with him in these mysteries by suffering, dying with Christ, and being resurrected to a new and purified life by shedding the un-Christ-like characteristics of our being.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Dave



NOTES OF THANKS

Dear Zion,

Thank you for all the Christmas gifts and the poinsettia. The gifts are very useful and the plant is still growing. Say hello to the Ruth Circle for me, they visited and brightened my day.

Barbara Baird

Dear Zion Friends,

Thank you so much for your overwhelming generosity in helping with the Christmas Giving Tree for local children through UPMC Home Health Care of Central Pa and the Valentine Caring Tree for local seniors through Blair Senior Services. This year your lovingly prepared gifts provided joy to children from ages four months to 17 years (along with their anxious parents) and seniors from ages 68 to 92.

You are truly instruments of God's love. Your willingness to be the hands for Jesus has been a great blessing.

With sincere thanks,
Your Adult Board



A new Zion youth and adult music group!

We are excited to announce "BIG NOIZ", a new musical group and opportunity open to **anyone, 7th Grade and older**. BIG NOIZ will be similar to our children's music group, "NOIZ" with opportunities to play handbells or chimes, sing, and more. Ryan Custead (Dir. of Faith Formation & Outreach) will lead the group. Anyone is welcome to join, no previous musical knowledge or ability required! If you do not wish to sing, there will be opportunities to participate in other ways (bells, percussion, keyboards, etc.). We will also be learning some basic music theory, songwriting, and learning how music and faith work together. Adults and young adults are encouraged to join Ryan and Zion's youth Sunday school class for this new opportunity!

*BIG NOIZ meets every **first and third Sunday**, September-May, **10:00-10:30am** in the upstairs music room (s).*

Upcoming dates: March 16th, April 6th
NO BIG NOIZ 4/20 (Easter Sunday), May 4th...

ZION'S FOOD PANTRY

We are in need of donations to replenish Zion's food pantry. Your past generosity has enabled us to give assistance to quite a few members of our community, but the need is always there and our pantry shelves always need refilling.

We are asking for donations of boxed, pre-packaged, & canned items. Ex. Soup, cereal, oatmeal/cream of wheat, canned vegetables, canned/cups fruit, canned chicken or tuna, peanut butter, jelly, ramen, flavored rice or noodle packets, pasta, sauce, crackers, granola or cereal bars, applesauce, etc. Sometimes there is limited ability/supplies to prepare food so simple one-pot/no-pot items can be helpful.

Other items that can be helpful are can openers, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, soap, razors, shaving cream, & feminine products.

Any items in excess of what we can use will be donated to the American Rescue Workers. Please do not donate expired food. Thank you in advance for your kindness!

BLOOD DRIVE

The Red Cross Blood Drive will be held in the Fellowship Hall on

**May 2, 2025
11:30 to 5:00**



Please watch your bulletin for information regarding sign-up for an appointment to give blood or to donate your time or food items for the event.

**"The need is constant.
The gratification is instant. Give blood."**

Outreach Board News

Please continue to check the bulletin board outside of the library, in your weekly bulletin, and via our weekly email blast for ways to help with upcoming Serving Squad events. We appreciate any contribution of food or time.

Also, we are continuing to accept any donations of **new or gently used blankets or any cold weather items such as hats or gloves and heavy socks**. Please drop off any items to the Outreach Room.

Thank you again for helping make God's grace tangible to those in need.



Taizé

TAIZÉ TUESDAY PROGRAM

Beginning at 7:00 p.m.

March 11, 18 & 25 & April 1, 8 & 15

**Theme: Teaching on the life & ministry
of Dietrich Bonhoeffer**

The Lenten Tuesday Program will begin with light discussion, followed by a Taizé style of Evening Prayer utilizing simple chants, silence, and candles.



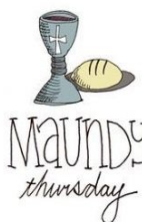
LENTEN PHOTO CHALLENGE

Each day, we will present a scripture-inspired word for your reflection. Notice how the word has meaning in your life, and share your thoughts by posting a picture. No explanation is necessary in your post; after all, a picture is worth a thousand words! Challenge yourself to participate daily, but you are welcome to participate as much or as little as you like.

Share your pictures in any of the following ways:

1. Send daily pictures to the Communication Board (news@zionholidaysburg.org) with the day's word in the subject line.
2. Post daily pictures to Instagram, #zionholidaysburg, #[wordoftheday] (for example, #dust)
3. Post daily pictures to your Facebook page and tag Zion Lutheran Church-Holidaysburg, PA.
4. Post daily pictures to Zion's Facebook wall (Zion Lutheran Church - Holidaysburg, PA).

This challenge is about paying attention and being intentional. It's not about getting the perfect shot with the perfect light and filter (but if that's your jam, go for it). The hope is for you to take time each day to live in the season of Lent and to share a glimpse into your Lenten life with our community. Feel free to invite your friends and family to participate in this challenge as well!



Holy Week at Zion *April 13th through April 20th*

Palm Sunday services at 8:00 AM & 10:45 AM

Maundy Thursday service at 7:00 PM

Good Friday Lenten Lunch & Service at 12:00 PM

Good Friday service at 7:00 PM

Holy Saturday at 6:00 PM

Easter Sunday services at 8:00 AM & 10:45 AM



Easter Egg Hunt

Sponsored by
Zion & ALSM

**Saturday, April 12 at
11:00am**

At the Lutheran Home at
Holidaysburg

All children (ages 12 and under) are invited for a special Easter egg Hunt at the Lutheran Home at Holidaysburg (916 Hickory St.). We will also sing some songs and get a sneak peak at Zion Vacation Bible School 2025.

Bring a basket or bag!





Memorial Camper Fund

Leave no camper behind!

Established in honor of Jim Rhodes, Walt Wohler, and those who have led young people in faith.

Faith Riders is establishing a special fund to support Zion's continued youth camping and retreat ministries. Camping programs at Sequanota and other Christian camps have had an indelible impact on young people's lives for generations. Zion is a strong supporter and partner of church camping. Historically, Zion has sent large numbers of kids to camp each year, and it is a blessing to continue in this effort. In a rapidly changing world, church camping remains a viable and proven effort of ministry. Young people find faith, self confidence, teamwork, positive relationships and much more at camp. The "Memorial Camp Fund" will ensure that youth continue to have access to these tools and gifts. The fund will also help Zion continue to increase the number of campers we send to camp amidst rising costs.

*Specifically, the fund will allow Zion to send kids to camp who may not have the resources to contribute financially. It will also allow our families to contribute and pay for camp as they are able. **Faith Riders, Zion members, and anyone** is invited to support our camping and retreat ministries by making contributions to this fund.* The "Memorial Camper Fund" is established in honor of the faithfulness with which Jim Rhodes, Walt Wohler, and other saints before us have invested in our youth. Give to the fund in your offering or in the church office by marking your contribution as "Memorial Camper Fund".

**Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord.
Psalm 127:3**

BACCALAUREATE 2025



Sunday, May 18th at 7:00pm

In the HAHS Auditorium

1510 N Montgomery St,
Hollidaysburg

Join with members of the Class of 2025 and local ministries for a service of worship and prayer. All are welcome and invited! Attending seniors should report to the cafeteria at 6:45pm.



Sponsored by The Hollidaysburg Ministerium &
The Hollidaysburg Youth Ministerium

THURSDAY SPOT

HELP NEEDED! Volunteer as a chaperone for this new "after school" program sponsored by the Hollidaysburg Youth Ministerium and the Blair Regional YMCA!

Our Dir. of Faith Formation & Outreach, Ryan Custead and other local church leaders are looking for volunteers to assist in chaperoning a new after school program *at the Y*. **"Thursday Spot" is every Thursday, 3:00-5:00pm.** As leaders get this new effort off the ground, we are looking for adults who feel led to serve local youth. The Spot includes snacks, games, optional light devotions, open gym, and space for youth to hang out. The Y experiences a large number of students who gather in the after school hours. This program will be an asset in forming positive relationships with youth in our community, promoting events and ministry, and more! "Thursday Spot" is open to all 7th Graders and Y members through 12th Grade. Chaperones are most importantly a set of eyes and ears, but there will also be opportunity to lead activities.

If you are interested in chaperoning, please contact Ryan at (814) 695-0091 or at ryncust@gmail.com. All will need to have a Child Abuse Clearance and State Police Background Check on file with the church office. Chaperones will have an opportunity to sign up for as little or as many Thursdays as they wish.



zion FAITHFORMERS

Zion's preschool-3rd Grade group

FaithFormers is a place where children learn about and experience God with fun songs, lessons, games, and more! All **Preschool-3rd Graders** are welcome to start attending any time we meet. FaithFormers meets here at the church every **first and third Wednesday from 4:30pm-5:30pm** of every school-year month. Ryan Custead will lead the group along with volunteers from the congregation. *Children may choose to have a parent or guardian attend with them. Children who are not potty trained **must** have a parent or guardian with them.* Please contact the church office at (814) 695-0091 or email Ryan at ryncust@gmail.com with any questions. *A parent or guardian will need to register their child with a short release form at the church when attending for the first time. Forms will be available at FaithFormers, on the children's bulletin board, and online.

Upcoming dates: (4:30pm-5:30pm):
March 19
April 2 & 16

IGNITE

'IGNITE THE Y'

FRIDAY, APRIL
7:00PM-9:30PM **4TH**

@BLAIR REGIONAL YMCA
1111 HEWIT ST, HOLLIDAYSBURG

All 6th-12th
Graders
Welcome!

Dance room. open gym. food. games. space to hang out. a message. new friends and more!

SPONSORED BY THE
HOLLIDAYSBURG
YOUTH MINISTERIUM 
a multi-church and organization partnership



zion Cr@ZY

Mark your calendars for CR@ZY! Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month from 7:00-8:30 p.m. (unless stated otherwise) Zion Youth & friends, 7th-12th Grade are invited for youth group fun, Faith discussions, opportunities to serve, and more!

CR@ZY "Lite"

4th-6th Graders will also be meeting during the Cr@zy hour, 7:00-8:30 p.m. Bible study, games, service work, prayer, and more! This group will follow the Cr@zy schedule.

Upcoming Dates:

3/26
4/9 & 4/23

zion Lutheran Church
HOLLIDAYSBURG, PA



7TH-12TH GRADE LOCK IN

Friday, April 4th 7:00pm-
Saturday, April 5th 10:00am

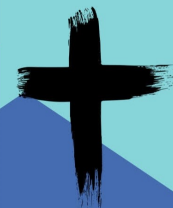


At the church. Games, movies, snacks, "night games", and more!

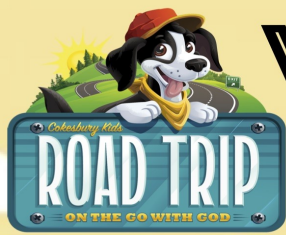
Starts at the YMCA with "Ignite the Y" (community youth event).

1111 Hewit St.

Drop youth off at the Y @ 7:00pm
Pick youth up at the church @ 10:00am



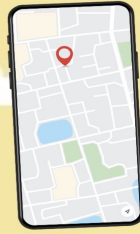
A parent/gaurdian will need to sign a release when dropping youth off.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



June 1st-5th



5:15-8:15pm

**@ Zion Lutheran Church
500 Allegheny Street
Hollidaysburg**



Begins with dinner!

Games, lessons, crafts, songs, FREE!



Preschool-6th Grade
Register at 695-0091
or online at
zionhollidaysburg.org



Lutheran Church
HOLLIDAYSBURG, PA



STEPHEN MINISTRY

In addition to the cold weather outside, many people experience winters in their personal lives. A recent loss through death, divorce, or relocation may leave them feeling lonely. A hospitalization, a cancer diagnosis, or ongoing medical problems may leave them feeling isolated. The loss of a job, the fear of layoffs, or a financial setback can devastate one's self esteem. Family and personal struggles may leave them nowhere to turn for support.

If you are going through a difficult time, our Stephen Ministers can bring God's warm love back into your life. They provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care. They will meet with you privately on a weekly basis to listen, support, and encourage you as well as pray with and for you, for the duration of your crisis.

To find out more, speak to Pastor Dave or Stephen leaders: Karen Wagner 814-317-7722 and Connie Counsman 814-696-3832. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to care for you!

Sequanota Summer 2025!



Learn more about Camp Sequanota's opportunities this summer for children, youth, and adults and register for a camp experience this summer at www.sequanota.com

Please talk to Ryan Custead or Pastor Dave if you have specific questions about which program may work best for you/or your child. (*Many Zion kids and Ryan attend Week 8)

Zion is covering the "Tier II" fee for Sequanota-led camp programs for our children, youth, and friends. You will be able to indicate this during registration. (The actual cost for a regular camp week is \$650. If you would like to contribute, contributions can be made to the church office. We also welcome any Zion member who may feel led to make contributions for our campers.) Talk to Ryan or Pr. Dave if you have any financial questions or concerns.

Camping programs are available for **K-12 and adults**. There are day programs, overnight, half week, and full week options. **Programs run from the week of June 9th until the week of July 27th.** Camps include: Day camp, sampler camp, cabin camping, theme weeks, Sequanota family camp, and more!

***Ryan Custead will be at Theme Week this summer with many of Zion's campers (Week 8: July 27-August 1)**

Also at camp...

The "Tend" Festival Weekend, June 19-22. All ages with music, activities, speakers, forums, educational opportunities, and more! Ryan has been working this year with Pastor Nathan from Sequanota and other church leaders to continue this new program at camp. Go to www.sequanota.com and watch for more information!

Zion Family Camp: June 13-17. (**Note that Family Camp is earlier this year!** Watch for more info on this Zion summer program)

Zion Adult Retreat: September 4-7. (Watch for more information and an opportunity to sign up)



Rise - FOR - Recovery
BLAIR COUNTY

presents
Arts in Recovery 2025

An evening that celebrates and expresses the gift of recovery through music, art, poetry, and more.

Friday, May 16th 7:00pm

At Zion Lutheran Church
500 Allegheny Street, Hollidaysburg, PA
(Across the street from the Blair County Courthouse)

All Are Welcome

Go to zionhollidaysburg.org to sign up to share music, poetry, visual art and more.
(SUBMISSION NOT REQUIRED FOR ATTENDANCE)

zion Lutheran Church
HOLLIDAYSBURG, PA

Annual Congregational Meeting

May 18, 2025 at 10:30 a.m.

Fellowship Hall

There will be one worship service on 5/18 at 9:30 a.m. followed immediately by the annual meeting. Saturday evening worship will be at 6:00 p.m.

FINANCIAL REPORT General Fund

Current FY thru 1/31/25

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Income (Current Exp/Loose) | \$248,848.93 |
| Expenses (Budget) | \$227,412.44 |
| Income vs. Expenses (Budget) | \$21,436.49 |

(REMINDER: The above income figure reflects money given in the "Current Expenses" portion of your giving envelopes and undesignated loose offering only. Benevolence and money given to designated funds is not included.)

Renew Restore Rejuvenate

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Thank you for tolerating the dust and inconveniences as the first floor kitchen and bathroom renovations are underway, and moving along according to schedule. Let's keep our fingers crossed!

Volunteers took on the task of removing old fixtures and tile from the two first floor bathrooms, painting and prepping. Now the contractors take over upgrading plumbing, electric and installing new tile floors, walls.

Meanwhile, progress in the kitchen continues. New dish machine ductwork has been installed, and a new ceiling is going in. Next, the electric and plumbing will be upgraded then the floor will be coated in attractive, durable epoxy finish. Cabinets will be delivered soon, and staged for installation.

A collapsed drain pipe was discovered while preparing to replace the old, broken grease trap in the basement. So, the basement floor had to be dug up and re-cemented. This repair made new flooring a necessity. For efficiency, the same contractor doing the kitchen floor, will apply an attractive, durable, and easy-to-clean epoxy to the main hallway floors and stairwells throughout the basement. Expenses related repairs to the drain line collapse will be charged against the general building fund.

Capital Campaign donations have exceeded the pledged amount, and are now approaching the \$490,000 benchmark. The Zion community generosity is a blessing. Original cost estimates changed dramatically with the cost of materials and labor increases, unexpected expenses, and other variables. While it was not looking possible for a while, it will likely now be feasible to remodel the basement and second floor restrooms, as had been planned for Phase III.

Our continued thanks to all for making these much-needed updates to our beloved church possible. As we enter the Lenten Season; preparing spiritually for Easter, we can also look forward to the celebration of a fresh, new space for community and fellowship.

Zion Lutheran Church
500 Allegheny Street
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648

Return Service Requested

NON PROFIT

US POSTAGE

PAID

Altoona, PA
Permit No. 50

Contact Information

CPC Executive Director

Aaron Wagner 814-404-6584

Pastor

Rev. David Bowman 814-330-8025

Director of Faith Formation & Outreach

Ryan Custead 814-695-0091

Church Office

Phone 814-695-0091
Email: office@zionhollidaysburg.org

