


Lutheran Church

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

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



SEPTEMBER
2025

Worship

Saturday - 6:00 p.m.

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

Sunday School

9:30 Sunday School for All Ages

(Begins on Rally Day, 9/7)

Sundays:

9:00 a.m. NOIZ Rehearsal (Begins on Rally Day, 9/7)

Wednesdays:

9:00 a.m. Stitch & Sew

Thursdays:

10:00 a.m. ThuMBS (Begins on 9/11)

SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

9/1: Labor Day ~ Office Closed

9/3: Finance Board Meeting

9/3 & 17: FaithFormers

9/4-7: Adult Retreat (Sequanota)

9/7: Rally Day

9/9: Property Board Meeting

9/10: Communication Board Meeting

9/10 & 24: Cr@zy & Cr@zy Lite

9/13: Men's Breakfast

9/14: Youth & Children Sunday

9/16: Ruth Circle

9/17: Mutual Ministry Meeting

9/18: CPC Meeting

9/19 & 26: Afterburners

9/21: Big NOIZ

9/21: Church Kitchen Usage Meeting

9/24 & 25: Parsonage Outside Work Day

9/25: Worship Board Meeting

9/27: Faith Riders

LOOKING AHEAD TO OCTOBER

10/5: Blanket Sunday

10/11: Blessing of the Animals

10/12: Oktoberfest

10/19: Harvest Home

10/24: Afterburner

The other day, my dog, Otto, had surgery to remove a cyst that was on his eyelid. He's doing well; everything went according to plan and only one stitch was required. However, with that one stitch came the infamous "cone of shame."

The cone of shame has brought a fair amount of amusement into the parsonage, much to Otto's chagrin. Door jams, cabinets, furniture, and legs are now, suddenly, in his way. He is ricocheting off obstacles faster than a plinko chip on the Price Is Right. Each collision is accompanied by the dull and hollow "thunk" of plastic. Otto does not understand, nor is he making any attempt to adjust his trajectory as he navigates through space.

This cone, Otto's inability to adjust and adapt, and the chaotic symphony of "thunks" is a perfect metaphor for sin. Quite often, our sinfulness is something we choose to do—decisions that we are aware of. At other times our complacency and inaction are our sinful behavior, leading to relationship rifts between others and God. It's as if we are wearing the cone and are unable to fully interact with the people and world around us. Instead, we collide and "thunk" and are oblivious to the ways in which we are making harmful contact with what surrounds us. Perhaps we are aware, and we simply don't wish to change course. We grow used to the "thunks" and even grow to find them amusing.

In this metaphor, God is the one who removes the cone of shame. Perhaps, this happens once we realize it is there and repent. Perhaps, this happens as an act of sheer gift from God, even in our obliviousness. This gift is forgiveness. This gift is grace. This gift is mercy. The removal of our cones allows us to fully engage with the world as God intends.

The next time you find yourself colliding with others, either intentionally or unintentionally, think of how you might be wearing a cone. What's preventing you from fully engaging? What's keeping you at arms' length? How often do you hear a "thunk?" In what way can you seek God's forgiveness if your actions or inactions are creating a rift?

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Dave

NOTES OF THANKS

Dear Zion,

Many thanks to the Ruth Circle for the wonderful Root Beer Float Party in June and August at Hillcrest. I can tell you that folks talk about the fun they had for days. They also ask "Who does this for us?" I always say, "My church, Zion".

Thank you Zion Ruth Circle for your outreach to us. Days can be long sometimes, but your parties make us smile inside and out!

Thank you and bless you!
Ruth Grubb

FOR SOMEONE WHO WILL LISTEN

I need a compassionate ear Lord, someone who will just listen. Not someone who will try to fix me or attempt to solve my problems, but someone who will accept me for who I am. Not someone who will become anxious, suspicious or frightened when I share the deepest feelings of my soul, but someone who will accept me. Not someone who will give advice or scold or judge me, but someone who will quietly point me to you. I need someone to listen, Lord. Someone like you!

Please contact Pastor Dave or Stephen Leaders: Karen Wagner or Connie Counsman, if you or someone you know could use someone who cares.



STITCH & SEW

Stitch & Sew is a group that comes together to make lap robes for local nursing home residents and quilts that are sent to Lutheran World Relief for use around the world.

Financial donations are needed to keep this ministry active. Money given helps to purchase fabric for the backing and the batting needed for the middle. Fabric donations are also welcomed. Only cotton based woven fabric can be used.

You are always welcome to join them on Wednesday mornings at 9:00 in the fellowship hall. All that is needed is a willing heart, and a desire to fellowship, and a bag lunch. Their day usually ends around 2:00. If you can only be there for part of the time—just come as you can.

BLANKET SUNDAY ~ OCTOBER 5TH

PERSONAL CARE KITS (Lutheran World Relief - Kits of Care)

Ruth Circle is sponsoring the collection of Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief. As in past years, we are inviting the congregation to participate in contributing completed kits.

ITEMS NEEDED FOR EACH KIT:

1. One light/medium weight bath size towel (dark color preferred)
2. Two bath size bars of soap (in original wrapping)
3. One metal nail clipper (remove packaging)
4. One toothbrush (in original package)(or if multi pack, put toothbrushes in a business size envelope and seal) (no plastic bags or wrap)
5. One sturdy comb (not in package)

DO NOT ADD ADDITIONAL ITEMS OR LEAVE OUT ANY ITEMS LISTED.

Wrap items in the towel and tie securely with yarn. Do not enclose items in plastic bags. **Bring completed kits to the church library by Sunday, October 26th.**



Blessing - of the - ANIMALS



BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

St. Francis of Assisi is the patron saint of animals and the environment. The church commemorates his feast day in October every year. In the spirit of St. Francis, we will minister to the animals of our congregation with a Blessing of the Animals Service on **Saturday, October 11th at 10:00 a.m.** The service is short and will be held on the parsonage front lawn. We will move inside to the Fellowship Hall if there is inclement weather.

Pastor Dave will bless any animal that walks, crawls, slithers, or flies. Please make sure that your pet is controlled on a leash or secure in a pet taxi or terrarium. Yes, this service will have many distractions and that's part of its charm. If your pet likes to make noise and move around, that's perfectly acceptable. Please do not let your anxiety deter you from attending the service!

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Fellowship Hall
October 12 at 12:00 p.m.
following the 10:45 service

Please contact the church office no later than 10/5 to let us know that you plan to attend.

Our menu for this event will be:
Pork Tenderloin, Hot Dogs, Mashed Potatoes,
Sauerkraut, & Apple Desserts

Youth & Children Sunday!



Sunday,
September 14th

Mark your calendars for
Youth & Children Sunday 2025! Our 8:00 am

and 10:45 am Sunday services (9/14) and our 6:00 pm Saturday service (9/13) will feature children and youth helping to lead us in worship.

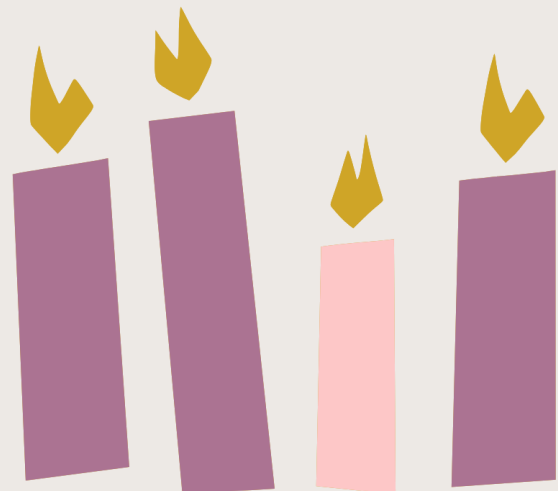
There will be speaking and nonspeaking roles. We will prepare during our Rally Day Sunday School hour (9/7, the week before) and at FaithFormers (9/3) and Cr@zy (9/10). Children and youth will also be able to participate if they are unable to attend small groups or Sunday School.

Wreath of Christ Wednesday

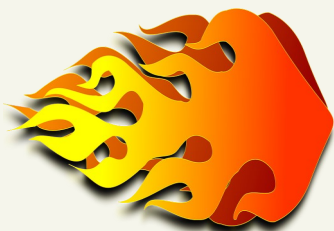
September 10 & 24
at 6:30 pm



Need to take a breath in the midst of a busy week? Enjoy a short, contemplative prayer service complete with prayer beads, chimes, and breathing exercises. Bring your own Wreath of Christ or borrow a set of ours for use during the service.



This season, let your words shine with the light of the Advent wreath.
Advent Devotional 2025 details coming soon.



AFTERBURNER VOLUNTEERS!

As we look to the Fall and the return of our Afterburner youth ministry, our first job is to be sure we have enough adult volunteers to serve as chaperones. We need to have about 18 volunteer chaperones each time to safely hold Afterburners. **Please prayerfully consider if this is a commitment you can make. We anticipate increased attendance, so it is "all hands on deck".** Chaperones are primarily a set of eyes and remain available to respond as needed in the building. This is a wonderful opportunity to be a part of caring for our community's youth.

Please contact Ryan Custead at ryncust@gmail.com or call the church office at (814) 695-0091 to add your name as a potential Afterburner volunteer in 2025.

Responding that you are willing to volunteer as a chaperone does not indicate an absolute commitment at this point to chaperone every Afterburner. However, those who respond in the affirmative are stating that they would intend to chaperone a majority of Afterburners.

Zion Afterburners are events held after home HAHS Varsity Football games for all 7th-12th Graders in the community. This has been a service that Zion has provided for our community by creating a safe and fun environment for local youth to gather on Friday evenings in the Fall. Chaperones are posted at various places inside and outside the church for the safety of the youth. Chaperones generally serve from about 8:30pm-11:10pm. About 170 youth attended each Afterburners in 2024.

**2025 Afterburner schedule:
8/22, 8/29, 9/19, 9/26, & 10/24**

SODA, COOKIES, & SNACKS FOR AFTERBURNERS



Afterburners are just around the corner, and we are in need of soda, cookies, & snack donations. In an attempt to make things a little safer, we would like to provide individualized snacks & drinks. If you would like to make a donation; small "mini" cans or small bottles of soda, small bags of snacks, and individual packs of cookies. Homemade cookies are still welcome and can be put in smaller bags or our volunteers can package them for distribution.

The dates of the Afterburners are as follows:

8/22, 8/29, 9/19, 9/26, & 10/24



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Parlor Class (across from the office)

Men's Class (Library, next to office)

Nursery Class (Nursery, upstairs in the Educational Wing)

All classes meet from 9:30 to 10:30
Stop by the kitchen to grab a cup of coffee!

Starting September 7

Join Us!



Also remember

ThuMBS

(Thursday Morning Bible Study)

Meets in the Fellowship Hall
every Thursday at 10:00 a.m.

An informed look at the Bible lessons
for the upcoming Sunday.

Starting September 11

Fall start ups! Zion Youth and Children

^{zion} **Cr@ZY** Cr@zy (7th-12th Graders): **Wednesday, 9/10** from 7:00-8:30 pm.

Cr@zy is Zion's regularly meeting 7th-12th Grade group. We do a variety of activities, bible studies, games, and service work throughout the year. **Meets every 2nd and 4th Wednesday, September-May.**

^{zion} "lite" **Cr@ZY** Cr@zy "lite" (4th-6th Graders): **Wednesday, 9/10** from 7:00-8:30 pm.

Zion's 4th-6th Graders now meet for their own separate group at the same time as Cr@zy. We do a variety of activities, bible studies, games, and service work throughout the year. **Meets every 2nd and 4th Wednesday, September-May.**

^{zion} **FAITHFORMERS** FaithFormers (preschool-3rd Grade): **Wednesday, 9/3** from 4:30-5:30 pm.

FaithFormers is Zion's regularly meeting children's group. Fun games, crafts, song time, bible studies, and more! **Meets every 1st and 3rd Wednesday, September-May.**



Sunday School (all ages): **Sunday, 9/7** from 9:30-10:30 am.

Join us for Rally Day (Sunday School kick-off) on September 7th, and then every Sunday after that. We have classes for children, Jr/Sr High Youth, and adults. **Meets every Sunday, unless other-wise announced, September-May.**



ADULT FALL START-UPS



STITCH & SEW: For anyone with the time to help make quilts for Lutheran World Relief. If you can sew, cut, tie knots, iron or just want to enjoy some good company, then join this group each Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. Bring a bag lunch. Any questions, please contact Bonnie Summers.

RUTH CIRCLE: All women are welcome and encouraged to join the group for Ruth Circle, which usually meets the third Tuesday of each month at 9:00 a.m. **The first meeting is scheduled for 9/16.** Please watch your bulletins for the location. Any questions, please contact Jolene Kopriva.

ThuMBS: This Thursday Morning Bible Study meets in the church library weekly at 10:00 a.m. **Start date will be 9/11.** Any questions, please contact Pastor Dave or the church office.

MEN'S BREAKFAST: All men are welcome to attend a monthly men's breakfast with a brief discussion in the Fellowship Hall. The group meets at 8:00 a.m., one Saturday per month. **Start date to be determined.** Any questions, please contact Sam McClure.



September 7, 2025

9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School for All Ages

Rally Day Project
"New Beginnings" Backpacks*



Preschool-12th Grade
Special combined class and activity to
kick off the Fall!

**Backpacks for released prisoners*

Made Worthy

Girls' Bible Study (new this Fall!)

For youth, 4th-12th Grade
and an optional accompanying grown up

Sunday evenings, 6:30-8:00 pm
@ The Donlan home (to start!)

***Upcoming Dates:**

**Sundays 9/14, 9/28, 10/12, 10/26, 11/9, &
Friday 11/21** (gathering with younger girls)

RSVP to Brigitte Donlan at
educatorpsu@yahoo.com or 814
-207-0646 with any questions
and for directions to the Donlan
home.

5\$ donation per participant (can
be given at Bible Study or
church office. RSVP will not be
required to attend!)



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):
September 3 & 17
October 1 & 15

CONFIRMATION COURSES



Courses are for all youth in year 1 and 2 of the Confirmation process. Topics for the courses will range from Catechism, to the Bible, to Love & Marriage, to Drugs, Alcohol, & Faith, and more!

Confirmation Courses are now taught during the Sunday School hour throughout the year. The schedule for 25-26 is as follows:

Sundays

10/12 & 10/26, 9:30 to 10:30 am

11/30 & 12/14, 9:30 to 10:30 am

1/11 & 1/25, 9:30 to 10:30 am

2/8 & 2/22, 9:30 to 10:30 am

(Schedule may adjust as programs and retreats are scheduled for 25-26. You will be notified in advance.)

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:

9/10 & 9/24

10/8 & 10/22

Zion Music Groups NOIZ & "BIG" NOIZ



Did you know that Zion has regularly meeting music groups for all ages? **NOIZ**, age 4 through 6th Grade, and **"Big" NOIZ**, 7th Grade and up, provide opportunity for singing, hand bells, music theory, and even songwriting. Participants are not required to sing and no musical experience is necessary. Sessions are led by our Dir. of Faith Formation & Outreach, Ryan Custead and explore how we use music in our life of faith. NOIZ and "BIG" NOIZ also offer music in worship throughout the year. All ages are welcome to start attending any time! The schedule is below:

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NOIZ (age 4 through 6th Grade): **Every Sunday**, September-May from **9:00am-9:30am** in the upstairs music room.

"BIG" NOIZ (7th Grade and up, includes adults): Every **first and third Sunday**, September-May from **10:00am-10:30am** in the upstairs music room.



NOIZ starts in the Fall on
Sunday, September 7th at 9:00am
"BIG" NOIZ starts in the Fall on
Sunday, September 21st at 10:00am

CHURCH KITCHEN MEETING:

Expectations and Opportunities!
Sunday, September 21st
after 10:45am worship (Noon)



All **Zion adults, families, and young people** that anticipate using our new church kitchen for ministry and programs should attend a brief kitchen meeting as they are able on **Sunday, 9/21** after 10:45am worship.

This will include instructions on how to operate appliances, clean surfaces, and some expectations for how we can best use this resource together in Jesus' name! The meeting will be led by Ryan Custead and members of the Outreach, Serving Squad, and CFY Boards. *Everyone is encouraged to attend.*



Sponsored by the Hollidaysburg Youth Ministerium



PumpkinPalooza

Saturday, October 11th
7:00-9:30pm



7th-12th Graders welcome!

@ Hicks Memorial Methodist Church
1211 3rd Ave, Duncansville

Pumpkin carving, music, snacks, campfire, and more!



From the team that plans the Hollidaysburg Afterburners!

AFTERBURNERS

FINANCIAL REPORT General Fund

July 1, 2025 thru July 31, 2025

Income (Giving)	\$33,028.00
Expenses	\$42,245.81
Income vs. Expenses (Giving Only)	(\$9,217.81)

(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.)

Zion Lutheran Church
500 Allegheny Street
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648

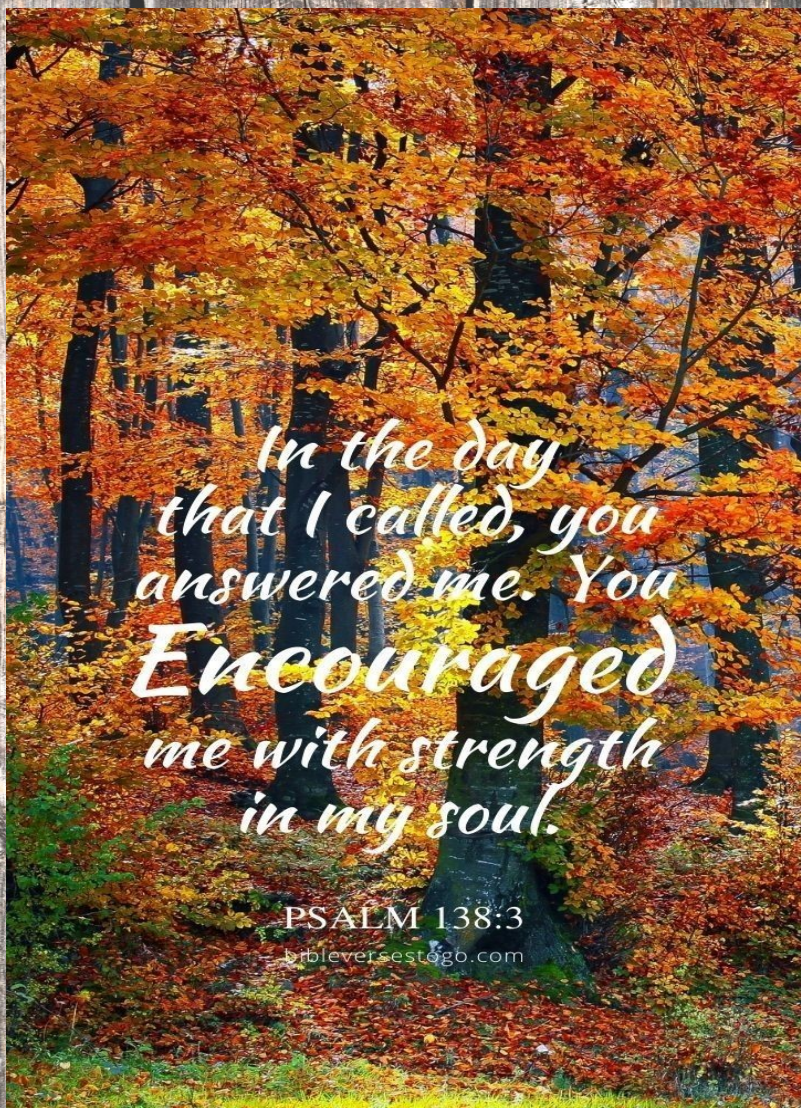
Return Service Requested

NON PROFIT

US POSTAGE

PAID

Altoona, PA
Permit No. 50



*In the day
that I called, you
answered me. You
Encouraged
me with strength
in my soul.*

PSALM 138:3
bibleversestogo.com

Contact Information

CPC President

Justine Clark 814-207-4931

Pastor

Rev. David Bowman 814-330-8025

**Director of Faith
Formation & Outreach**
Ryan Custead 814-695-0091

Church Office

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