

Lutheran Church

Phone: 814-695-0091

Office email:

Website:

Office Hours: 8:30AM-3:30PM Tuesday-Friday

office@zionhollidaysburg.org

www.zionhollidaysburg.org

FEBRUARY 2026



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

7:00 p.m. Special Music/Choir Practice

Thursdays:

10:00 a.m. ThuMBS

FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

2/1 & 15: Big NOIZ

2/4 & 18: FaithFormers

2/4 & 18: Young Adult Small Group

2/6-8: Family Winter Retreat

2/10: Property Board Meeting

2/11 & 25: Wreath of Christ Wednesday

2/11 & 25: Cr@zy & Cr@zy Lite

2/15: Chili & Soup Cook-off

2/17: Ruth Circle

2/17: Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

2/18: Ash Wednesday

2/19: CPC Meeting

2/22: Girl's Bible Study

2/28: Winter Jam (Pittsburgh)

LOOKING AHEAD TO MARCH

3/1 & 15: Big NOIZ

3/4 & 18: FaithFormers

3/4 & 18: Young Adult Small Group

3/5: Finance Board Meeting

3/8 & 22: Girl's Bible Study

3/10: Property Board Meeting

3/11 & 25: Wreath of Christ Wednesday

3/11 & 25: Cr@zy & Cr@zy Lite

3/13: Bowling & Skating (Morrison's Cove)

3/17: Ruth Circle

3/19: CPC Meeting

3/20: Salvation Army Dinner

3/28: Winter Jam Rain Date (State College)

3/29-4/5: Holy Week

If you've been through the church building on a Saturday morning in the last couple of years, you may have bumped into some folks coming in and out of a meeting in the church chapel. "The Day After" meeting of the local Alcoholics Anonymous District meets every Saturday in our chapel at 8:30am. Since starting a couple of years ago, this meeting has become a well attended and foundational part of the local recovery community. It is attended by many people with decades of sobriety and life in recovery. The meeting is highly recommended, particularly for "new comers" looking to form new and supportive relationships. If you come across these folks in the church building, you will likely be warmly greeted. As always, AA asks that we keep to ourselves the names of those we come across. The "long timers" who started and run the meeting at Zion have extended a sincere thanks to our congregation for supporting and hosting them.

The men and women of AA who gather in our building each week come for connection, encouragement, and wisdom. Their meeting begins with a reading of "The Twelve Steps" and readings from the "Big Book" of Alcoholics Anonymous. These readings serve as a reminder of the collective wisdom of AA that has served so many for generations. They orient the listener toward God and to their fellow AAs. Readings provide an opportunity for personal inventory and reflection. Meeting attenders then find encouragement as they share with each other about their successes and their common struggles. It is often said, if you listen long enough in AA meetings, you will hear your own story. You will find a spiritual companion in your journey of recovery. Life in addiction is a life of isolation and profound "aloneness". Life in recovery is one of deep connection. AAs spend time in their meeting praying for each other, sharing and keeping up to date with challenges, victories, and changes.

This month, be reminded that we, the people of Zion, also gather in our church for the same; wisdom, encouragement, and connection. Our reading of scripture and the speaking of our confessions and creeds provide our opportunity for self reflection and are a fount of wisdom. They are old, old words that have captured the hearts of countless sisters and brothers throughout generations. We are reminded of holy promises and find Christ himself in story and prayer. We find encouragement from each other as we share in the trials and joys of life. Are you taking time to intentionally encourage your siblings at Zion? It is a gift we can offer and receive. Finally, we find connection at church; connection to each other and connection to God. How might you find even more connection at Zion? Attending small groups and bible studies or coming for special fellowship events are great ways to find connection. When you come to church, it is your role to both give and receive that which you seek; wisdom, encouragement, and connection. Thanks be to God!

Ryan Custead

Director of Faith Formation & Outreach

NOTES OF THANKS

New Year Greetings,

Thank you for the poinsettia & gift bag. Very much appreciated at Christmas.

Blessings,

Joanne Thomson

Dear Zion Family,

Thank you very much for the Finals Care Package. It was very nice to have something to snack on while studying!

Thanks again,

Derek Clapper

Thank you to my Zion family for the beautiful poinsettia and gift bag. It was very much appreciated.

Ann Stubbs

Members of Zion Lutheran,

Thank you so very much for thinking of me and for the beautiful poinsettia and "bag of goodies." God's blessings to you all.

John Snyder

Dear Friends of Zion,

What a wonderful giving congregation we have. Your response to the Giving Tree this Christmas was overwhelming. Thank you so much to all those who lovingly purchased, wrapped, and returned special gifts that were the wishes of needy children. This year more than 140 gifts were presented to children ranging in age from two months to 18 years old. The gifts were distributed to the families by UPMC Home Healthcare.

Through your great generosity you gladdened the hearts of children at a very special time in their lives. Your willingness to give is indeed a blessing to many. A special "thank-you," too, to Joni Hammaker, Rick Fairhead, and Sam Gochnaur for their exceptional help.

Many thanks,

Your Adult Board

A big thank you to Dan Dangel for altering the Christmas tree storage boxes to accommodate the new sanctuary trees.

The Worship Board

A huge note of appreciation for all of the presents, cards, candy, and confections that were given this Christmas season! The warmth of your gifts helped to keep the cruel cold of winter at bay. Thank you for your generosity.

Many thanks,

Pastor Dave & Kelsey

Young Adult Small Group

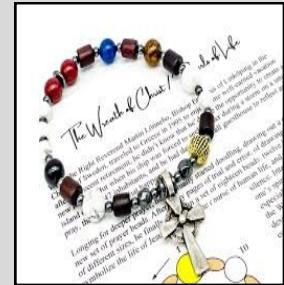


February 4th and 18th
March 4th and 18th
at 7 PM.

The small group will be geared for those 18 through 30-something to help build faith and relationships. We'll gather to discuss God, some scripture, and what's going on in this transitional part of life.

Wreath of Christ Wednesday

February 11 & 25
March 11 & 25
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.

It's Back!! The Annual Chili & Soup Cook Off!



February 15TH
following the 10:45 service
in the Fellowship Hall

Sign up for your group, family, or individually to submit a soup or chili entry to this highly competitive contest!

Guests will impartially determine the winning soup and chili. Sign up quick! When the spaces are gone, so is your opportunity to win the major award!

All congregation members and friends are invited to attend!

RULES:

1. Make a soup or chili and bring to Zion in a large pot or crockpot.
2. Share it and eat it.

The sign up will be posted on a bulletin board outside of the Library or talk to Ruth Lucey or anyone on Adult Board.

Please bring an item to donate to Zion's food pantry or American Rescue Workers ~ Canned Food, Non-perishable Food items, and Personal Care Items are all appreciated!



SHROVE TUESDAY

Basket Raffle & 

PANCAKE SUPPER

Free will donation
collected for the
2027 ELCA Youth
Gathering!



FEBRUARY 17TH
SERVED FROM
5:30-7:00PM

Zion's Youth will be
serving and decorating.
Come see the fellowship
hall turned into New
Orleans!

Youth and adult helpers will meet at 4:30pm. We
will also need volunteers to help clean up after.
Thank you!



Shrove Tuesday Basket Raffle **Baskets needed!**

Our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on Tuesday, February 17th (served from 5:30-7:00pm) will include a basket raffle fundraiser. Tickets will be available to purchase and enter into a raffle for each basket. The ELCA Youth Gathering Committee is gathering special, themed baskets from local businesses, organizations, or individuals. If you or someone you know would be willing to provide a basket for the raffle, please let Ryan Custead (Dir. of Faith Formation & Outreach) know at (814) 695-0091 or ryncust@gmail.com. Baskets can be any theme and include anything appropriate for a church event!

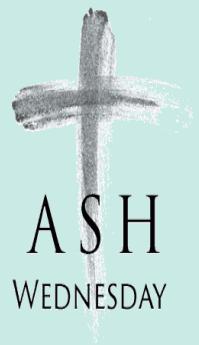
Baskets should be **dropped off** at the church **by Tuesday, 2/17 at 4:30pm**.

ASH WEDNESDAY

February 18th

Holy Communion
with Ashes

12:10 PM and 7:00 PM
in the Sanctuary



TAIZÉ TUESDAY PROGRAM

Beginning at 7:00 p.m.

February 24 & March 3, 10, 17, & 24

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



First Communion 2026

Zion recommends that children should be receiving communion by age 8.

Sign up by Sunday, March 8th!

Trainings are Sundays
March 15th and 22nd at Noon

First Communion is received on
Palm Sunday or Easter

Scan the QR Code (with your phone camera) to find more information and how to sign up!



SCAN ME



Sequanota Summer

2026

Fun and faith at summer camp!

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 (Dir. of Faith Formation & Outreach) or Pastor Dave if you have specific questions about which program may best for you and/or your child. (*Many Zion kids and Ryan attend Week 8)

Zion is covering half the "Tier II" fee for Sequanota-led camp programs for our children, youth, and friends. You will need to indicate that your church should be invoiced for the camp fee during registration at the Tier II level. You will then make your family payment directly to Zion. We ask that family payments be made to the church office by June 1st.

Family Payment: **\$325** (Made to the Zion office before June 1st)

**Subsidized Family Assist Payment: \$175 (Made to the Zion office before June 1st)*

**We are offering this price point confidentially to assist families who would be blessed by the extra help. Please contact us if you are in need of further confidential financial assistance as you plan for camp, family vacations, and other summer programs for your children. The congregation wants our kids at camp!*

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 15th until the week of August 2nd. Camps include: Day camp, sampler camp, cabin camping, theme week, and more!

***Ryan Custead will be at Theme Week this summer with many of Zion's campers (Week 8: August 2-7).** LET US KNOW WHEN YOUR CHILD HAS BEEN REGISTERED FOR CAMP (email Ryan at ryncust@gmail.com or call (814) 695-0091

Also at camp...

The "Tend" Festival Weekend, **June 25-28**. All ages with music, activities, speakers, forums, educational opportunities, and more! Go to www.sequanota.com and watch for more information!

Zion Family Camp: July 10-14. (Watch for more info on this Zion summer program.)

Zion Adult Retreat: September 10-13 (watch for more info and an opportunity to sign up.)

Girls' Bible Study

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

Sunday evenings (bimonthly)*, 6:30-8:00pm

@ The Donlan home (to start!)

***Upcoming Dates:** Sundays 2/8 (NO GBS!), **2/22, 3/8, 3/22, 4/5 (NO GBS!), 4/19, 5/3, 5/17**

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!)



Salvation Army ARC Dinner



Friday, March 20th
(4:30pm - 7:00pm)
***Donations Needed!**

Zion will be hosting the men from the Altoona Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Center for a dinner and night of encouragement on **Friday, March 20th**. Outreach and Children, Family, and Youth Board are partnering in this effort. **Zion families are invited to help with the evening and welcome the men.** Helpers should meet at the church at 4:30pm. We will finish by 7:00pm.

To attend the dinner with the men of the ARC: Contact Ryan Custead at ryncust@gmail.com or at (814) 695-0091 with your name and number of people looking to attend.

***To support the men of the ARC with a donation:** We are looking for monetary donations to assist with purchasing items for care bags for the men! These gifts can be made with your weekly offering, marked "Salvation Army Dinner" or in the church office.



Winter Jam 2026

Saturday, February 28th (meet at 1:30pm)

PPG Paints Arena, Pittsburgh

***Sign up by Tuesday, February 24th**

(Snow date, Saturday, March 28th in State College)



Everyone is invited to join Zion as we head to Winter Jam at the PPG Paints Arena on **Saturday, February 28th**. The concert opens at 5:00pm, so **we will be meeting at the church at 1:30pm**. We will return to the church late night (midnight or later). We will travel in the church van and a few additional vehicles, so transportation can be provided. *We will be standing in line outside for a good amount of time. Dress accordingly!*

We will have sandwich dinners packed for everyone on the ride there. The cost of admission is covered, but you may want some money for a snack stop on the way home or any band merch. *(The cost of admission is \$15 if you would like to contribute. Contributions can be made to the church office.)*

Winter Jam is an annual winter tour featuring a variety of contemporary Christian bands and artists. This is always a great event, and you won't want to miss it! Bands and artists this year include: Chris Tomlin, Matthew West, Disciple and more! *(Note that we will use Saturday, March 28th in State College as a "back up" date in case of bad weather.)*

TO SIGN UP BY TUESDAY, February 24th, Please send an email to Ryan Custead at ryncust@gmail.com with the subject "Winter Jam" and the number of people you have coming or contact the church office with the same information at (814) 695-0091. *(Youth and children may attend without an accompanying grown up, but will need a signed release form. Forms will be emailed to the congregation and blank forms will be available when dropping youth off on 2/28.)*



Zion Bowling and Skating

All ages!

Friday, March 13th
@ Morrison's Cove
Memorial Park

Join us for some Zion roller skating (rental skates provided) and bowling at Morrison's Cove Memorial Park in Martinsburg on Friday, 3/13 from 6:30-9:00 p.m. We will have a pizza dinner together at 7:00 p.m.

201 S Walnut St, Martinsburg, PA



VBS Volunteers

Meeting

Sunday, 3/8 after

10:45am worship

VBS is **Sunday, May 31st**

- Thursday, June 4th

(watch for more info!)



We are starting to get ready for "Rainforest Falls": Vacation Bible School 2026 on **May 31st - June 4th, 5:15-8:15pm** each evening here at Zion. We are looking for station leaders, crew leaders, extra adult help, youth helpers, decorating team, etc. There are ways to help with VBS that mean attending the program and working with children, and there is plenty of behind the scenes help needed too. VBS at Zion is a wonderful opportunity for us to help kids grow in relationship with God, have fun, and learn great lessons!

All interested volunteers should plan to attend a VBS Volunteers meeting on **Sunday, 3/8 directly after the 10:45am worship service** (about 11:50am). This should be a 30-40 minute meeting.

Please contact the church office or Ryan Custead at ryncust@gmail.com if you are interested in volunteering or helping but can not attend the meeting.

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:

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.



ZION FAITH FORMERS

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 pottery 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):

February 4 & 18
March 4 & 18



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

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:

2/11 & 2/25
3/11 & 3/25

ZION Lutheran Church
HOLLIDAYSBURG, PA



7TH-12TH GRADE LOCK IN

Friday, April 10th 7:00pm-
Saturday, April 11th 10:00am



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

FRIENDS ARE WELCOME!



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



Offering Envelopes & Online Giving

2026 offering envelopes are available in the Fellowship Hall. Please pick them up (and any you might be able to deliver to friends, neighbors and family) in the fellowship hall and **discard any old ones**. Using old envelopes may cause a discrepancy on your giving statement, so please do not use them.

Also a reminder that the church has online giving available for a more streamlined giving option. You can define how your money is distributed just like on your giving envelopes. Please consider this giving option as it allows for more consistent income flow to the church. If you are interested in online giving please contact the church office.

If you cannot find your envelope box or you are a newer or prospective member who has not received envelopes yet, please call the church office and we will make sure you receive them.

A Brief Explanation of the Sections on your Giving Envelopes

Current Expenses: All money stated in the Current Expenses section of your envelope will be applied towards the operation of the church. These expenses are paid based on the budget that is voted on and approved by the congregation at the Annual Meeting. This money is intended to offset all budgeted expenses. (See Financial Report below)

Benevolences: All money stated in the Benevolences section of your envelope will be forwarded to the Allegheny Synod, the ELCA, and beyond.

Special: All money in this section should be designated by the giver to a specific fund. (i.e. Building, Lutheran World Relief, Faith Riders, Stitch & Sew, National Youth Gathering, Helping Hand, Mission Trips, Youth Activities, etc.) These funds will be held for future use when needed. If you do not define a fund when you complete this section of your envelope, the money goes into an "Undesignated Specials" fund and will be used towards a project or need approved by the CPC.

If you have any questions regarding your donations, please don't hesitate to call the church office 814-695-0091.

FINANCIAL REPORT General Fund

July 1, 2025 thru December 31, 2025

Income (Giving)	\$246,322.25
Expenses	\$208,617.73
Income vs. Expenses (Giving Only)	
	\$37,704.52

(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.)

Capital Campaign Final Tally



As the Zion Accountants close the books on the three-year capital campaign, a huge congratulations and thank you goes out to our congregation for its astounding success! The final tally is \$511,898.91.

For the final project, volunteers completed demo of the basement restrooms, painted the walls, and installed new ceiling tiles. Ceramic wall and floor tile will be installed over the coming weeks by a contractor. The new stall partitions, plumbing and new fixtures will follow. Completion is expected by mid-March.

It is projected that there will be a small surplus of funds, which will be rolled into the building fund. Most certainly the congregational generosity and love of Zion are unbelievable! The members seem to be enjoying the many improvements and upgrades made to the church building. The benefits of the congregation's efforts will be enjoyed for many years to come!

ALTAR

FLOWERS



The Worship Board would like to remind the congregation of the sponsorship program for the flowers that are placed on the altar each week. The altar flower arrangement consists of an arrangement in a rectangular container approximately 9" x 4" and will sit between the candelabras. As always, you are welcome to sponsor the flowers in memory of loved ones, in honor of a special event, or in thanks for God's many blessings.

If you are interested in signing up, **the sign-up sheet for the new year will be on the bulletin board outside the office door**. Also, when you sign up, be sure to mark the column stating if you want to take the flowers after services.

The cost for altar flowers for 2026 will remain **\$65.00 for one center arrangement**. Checks can be made payable to Zion Lutheran Church or you can include payment in your offering envelope by marking it "Altar Flowers". **Thank you** in advance for participating in this ministry.

Inclement Weather Reminder



Our 10:45 service can be streamed each week from Zion's YouTube channel if you are unable to attend in person.

**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 President Director
Justine Clark 814-207-4931

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*