



*For the Members and Friends of Zion Lutheran Church
November 2023*

The Long Valley Lutheran

Sundays in November

November 5, All Saints Sunday

8:30 AM Sunday School

9:30 AM Contemporary Service of Holy Communion / Baptism

10:45AM Adult Forum: Praising Contemporary Hymns & Songs II. Led by Tim Wengert.

November 12, Twenty fourth Sunday after Pentecost

8:30AM Sunday School

9:30 AM Traditional Service of Holy Communion / Baptism

November 19, Twenty fifth Sunday after Pentecost

8:30AM Sunday School

9:30 AM Contemporary Service of Holy Communion

10:45 AM Adult Forum: Bible Basics - Galatians lessons. Led by Fred Humcke.

November 26, Christ the King Sunday

8:30AM Sunday School

9:30 AM Traditional Service of Holy Communion

10:45 AM Adult Forum: Bible Basics - Galatians lessons. Led by Fred Humcke.

Zion Lutheran Church, 11 Schooley's Mountain Rd., Long Valley, NJ 07853
phone: (908) 876-3547; **e-mail:** zionlongvalley@gmail.com; **website:** zionlongvalley.org

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

11 Schooley's Mountain Rd.
Long Valley, NJ 07853
Tel: (908) 876-3547
Fax: (908) 876-3947
E-mail: zionlongvalley@gmail.com
Website: zionlongvalley.org



Like us on Facebook at
"Zion Lutheran Church, Long Valley"

Pastor: Pastor Ingrid Wengert
Cell: (215) 692-2091
Email: Ingridfathwengert@gmail.com

Parish Secretary: Sarah Scudese

Minister of Music: Marilyn Hibler

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

9:30AM Worship with live-stream.

**CONGREGATION COUNCIL
MEMBERS/OFFICERS:**

President: Tom Scudese
Vice President: Eric Snyder
Secretary: Jeanne Howell
Finance: Ron Schulz

Members:

Burt Horner
Marcia Horner
Ben Johnston
Elaine Kesler
Becky Rasmussen
Christine Stabile

**LONG VALLEY CHRISTIAN
NURSERY SCHOOL**

11 Schooley's Mountain Rd.
Long Valley, NJ 07853
Tel: (908) 876-4115
Fax: (908) 876-4959

E-Mail: longvalleychristian@gmail.com
Website: longvalleychristian.com

LVCNS Director..... Meghan Bridge
Bus. Administrator....Cyndy Thompson

Office Hours
Parish Secretary Sarah
M-Fr from 9:00AM to 1PM.

If you wish to stop by, please call ahead just to make sure someone is here.

(908) 876-3547 or zionlongvalley@gmail.com

Pastor Ingrid

M-Th mornings

Pastor Ingrid is off on Fridays.

(215) 692-2091 or ingridfathwengert@gmail.com

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The deadline for the
December Newsletter is
November 25th



Articles may be sent to the church
office via email at

zionlongvalley@gmail.com, or left in Sarah
Scudese's mail box in the Parish Center.

**Your prompt attention to the deadline is
greatly appreciated!**



Please remember in your prayers all of our parish family and friends who suffer physically, emotionally, and are battling life altering conditions. Lord Jesus, who went about doing good and healing all, we ask you to bless our friends who are sick. Give them strength in body, courage in spirit, and patience in pain. Let them recover their health, so that restored, they may joyfully praise your name, for you and reign for ever and ever. Amen.

We pray for:

Family of James and Lori Andershonis: *Beverly Vecchione*

Friends and family of Jeanette Baker: *Frank Baker, Deborah Gruber*

Friend of Ellen Blaine: *Keith Correll*

Friends and family of Charlie & Marcia Davidson: *Gail Boyle*

Family & friends of Corey & Courtney Derr: *Ralph Derr, Bessie Grant, Don Gunter*

Family of Cathy DiLello: *Russell Dilello*

Family of Burt & Marcia Horner: *Bruce Adams, Rae Hoffman, David Swan, Joanne Yanchek*

Family of Jeanne Howell: *Dan Steffen and Jack Steffen*

Friend of Beth Johnson: *Tammy Jackman*

Family of Barbara Rennie: *Krista Gundersen*

Friends and family of Betty Rush: *Charlie Burd, Amy Burd, Kirk Klein, Ed Mancuso, Emily Mancuso, Pastor Martin Travis, Betty Wojciki*

Friend of Dottie Weis: *Rich & Pat Bosley, Kathy Hepner, Charlie Sousa*

Friends of Zion: *Linda Daly, JoAnn McElwaine*

Members of Zion:

Ellen Blaine, Diane Carlock, Donna East, Rob Johnson, Paul Litwiller, Jim Newquist, John Resotka, Hannelore Seitz, Dottie Tureson

*Prayer requests will also appear in the announcements each week.
Please contact the church office for
additions, to make updates, or with questions.*



Nearly 17 million veterans live among us in the United States.

November 11 is a day set aside, “intended to thank living Veterans for their service, to acknowledge that their contributions to our national security are appreciated, and to underscore the fact that all those who served - not only those who died - have sacrificed and done their duty” (U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs). As a congregation, we regularly pray for all who serve in ways that support and protect us, but on November 12, we will also give thanks for the sacrifices of relationship, time, salary, peace of mind (see below) and body that veterans and also their families have made on our behalf.

This is very appropriate for peace-loving Christians to do. Even though Christians have always regularly prayed for peace between the nations, we also realize that we live in a broken world. In order to restrain evil, there are times that war, fighting and killing become the lesser of two evils.

Recently, I directed a Korean War veteran to Martin Luther’s writing “Whether Soldiers, Too, Can Be Saved.” I don’t think he is the only veteran who is very disturbed in spirit about having killed. Luther’s words speak to our time as to the 16th century: “...*In the same way, when I think of a soldier fulfilling his office by punishing the wicked, killing the wicked, and creating so much misery, it seems an un-Christian work completely contrary to Christian love. But when I think of how it protects the good and keeps and preserves wife and child, house and farm, property, and honor and peace, then I see how precious and godly this work is; and I observe that it amputates a leg or a hand, so that the whole body may not perish...*”

Veterans, we set aside merely a day, but we should regularly give thanks to God for you and the peace and protection that you have helped to bring to this country and this world.





Worship in November

We will have one service alternating between contemporary and traditional services. Sunday School will be at 8:30AM until 9:15AM
Virtual: We will live-stream the service to [Zion's YouTube channel](#), and it's automatically recorded so that you can worship when you are able.
 The worship bulletin, readings and music are [located on our website](#)

Upcoming Adult Forums

11/5: Praising Contemporary Hymns & Songs II. Led by Tim Wengert. As Zion alternates between contemporary and traditional music, it is worthwhile to reexamine and appreciate both the rich heritage of our Lutheran hymnody and the remarkable variety in modern, contemporary music.

11/19: Bible Basics - Galatians Lessons. Led by Fred Humcke

11/26: Bible Basics - Galatians Lessons. Led by Fred Humcke

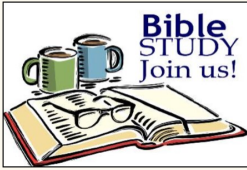


Adult Forum

Learning, Living, Loving

Appointed Worship Readings for November

<u>Worship Date</u>	<u>Old or New Testament Readings</u>	<u>Psalm</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
November 5,	Revelation 7:9-17 / 1 John 3: 1-3	Psalm 34:1-10, 22	Matthew 5:1-12
November 12,	Amos 5:18-24 / 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	Psalm 70	Matthew 25: 1-13
November 19,	Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18 / 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11	Psalm 90:1-8	Matthew 25: 14-30
November 26,	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 / Ephesians 1:15-23	Psalm 95:1-7a	Matthew 25:31-46



TUESDAY AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY

We will meet for an in person Bible study In Faith Hall at 1:30pm. The readings will continue to be the appointed readings for Sunday, which is based on a 3-year cycle that spans the Old and New Testaments:

<https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu//>



Child Care for 9:30AM Service

We are looking for one adult and an assistant each week to watch children during part of the 9:30AM service. Childcare will be available after children's time until just before Communion. Please sign up [here](#) .

Long Valley

Community Thanksgiving Service

Monday, November 20th at 7PM

The Long Valley Clergy Association is sponsoring a community Thanksgiving service and invites all to join in giving thanks to God.

To be held at *Zion Lutheran Church*

Contemporary music; Offering to support Operation Chillout

Please bring canned /boxed goods for LVCAP food pantry



From the Congregation Council:

Greetings Church Family and Friends,

Council met with Bishop Tracie of the NJ Synod in October. We had asked the Bishop for clarification on certain Synod policy statements, as well as shared with her some parishioners' responses and concerns to social issues that were raised on the NJ Synod's social media. We discussed how we can faithfully and honestly handle differences; that is, how parishioners who are conservative or liberal can both feel at home at Zion, and the broader Church that we are a part of.

Thanks to Bishop Tracie for traveling to meet us in person, and to this Council for the ability to have these conversations in today's world of political correctness and cancel-culture. Special thanks to Pastor Ingrid for raising these questions to The Bishop and facilitating this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Scudese



Don't forget to change your clocks back on
Sunday November 5th



Congratulations to
Dan & Allie Rasmussen
On the birth of their daughter
Amelia Gale Rasmussen
& grandparents
Jim & Becky Rasmussen.



On October 1st
We celebrated the Baptism of
Lia Grandison Wengert
Daughter of
David Hayworth Wengert &
Claire Grandison
and grandparents
Tim & Ingrid Wengert.



All Saints Sunday

Sunday November 5 is All Saints Sunday. Lutherans use the term “saint” to describe believers, just as the Apostle Paul did in addressing many of his letters in the New Testament “To the saint in... (name of town/region).” On All Saints Sunday, we remember the saints who have died and are now in God’s nearer presence. In the prayers we will name aloud those members of this faith community who have died since last All Saints Sunday and toll a bell. However, we list the names of all people that individuals of our church family wish to remember in an insert for the day. To participate, please write down the name of your loved one on the form that will be available in October on the narthex table - or call or email Sarah in the office.

TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT ACTIVITY THRU OCTOBER 2023

Please read notes below

OPERATING	Actual YTD September 2023	Estimated Month of Oct 2023	[This Year] Estimated YTD Oct'23	[Last Year] Actual YTD Oct 2022	(Un)Favor Variance	Notes
Income	\$181,996	\$25,888	\$207,884	\$221,935	(\$14,051)	A
Expenses						
Payroll-Related	\$107,323	\$11,846	\$119,169	\$121,821	\$2,652	B
Administrative	\$83,790	\$6,931	\$90,721	\$92,035	\$1,314	
Committees	\$16,878	\$416	\$17,294	\$16,418	(\$876)	C
Total Expenses	\$207,991	\$19,193	\$227,184	\$230,274	\$3,090	
Net Income(Loss)	(\$25,995)	\$6,696	(\$19,300)	(\$8,339)	(\$10,961)	
Cash Balance End of Mo.	\$18,256		\$24,302	\$33,169	(\$8,867)	D

Operating Notes: (Un)Favorable variances

- A. October 2023 Giving is approximately (\$11,000) below October 2022.**
- B. Business Manager position now volunteer \$3,879; benefits paid (\$1,296)
- C. Mission Support (\$1,119)
- D. Cash balance on 10/31/23 is projected to be (\$8,867) below last year (10/31/22)**

MEMO: NON-OPERATING financial information is not otherwise available as of the writing of this report

Mortgage Status:

Mortgage Balance 1/1/2023	\$227,721			Total Payments
Principle paid thru October	\$48,954	Interest paid	\$8,110	\$57,064
Mortgage Balance 10/31/2023	<u>\$178,767</u>			

Payments of \$3,900 are made each month. At the current pace of giving and scheduled monthly payments, Zion will run out of funding for mortgage payments during the 2nd quarter of 2025.

Treasurer's Comments: *looking at the last 2 months of 2023*

In the 4th quarter of 2022 (last year), the Congregation contributed more than \$79,000 which is nearly double the normal; it was needed since through September 2022 we were deficit spending by ~\$27,000. In 2023 we find ourselves in a similar situation due to the seasonality that summer giving causes. As such, it is requested that those who donated so generously last year consider repeating that in the 4th quarter of 2023 so that our finances are strong entering 2024.

Giving in October 2023 was below October 2022 by approximately (\$11,000).

Zion does not utilize fundraisers for the Operating Budget. Zion depends solely on your financial giving to pay for operational expenses.

Respectfully submitted,
Ron Schulz, Zion Treasurer

Zion Fall Property Report 2023

Bridging the future While Preserving the Past



Completed Work at Zion:

- Trees around the playground that posed a health and safety hazard have been taken down.
- Repairs to the men's bathroom exhaust fan in Faith Hall is done.
- Lighting for the Faith Hall area and stairways has been updated, in part, to LED's. Ceiling T-8 fluorescents used to be the standard upgrade, but that was 10 + years ago. Now as the fixture's life ends, they will be converted to a more energy saving LEDs in the future and as the budgets allow.
- **Indoor air quality in the sanctuary has been tested and is excellent. (Full report available upon request).**
- Bulletin boards as well as dry eraser boards are installed. Paper shredding is completed.
- Natural gas usage report from the gas company demonstrates that the efforts to improve our consumption and usage has been a success. It is significant and has demonstrated that we are trying to be as responsible as we can in this energy sensitive society. Yes, we are doing our part to the best of our ability! I thank everyone at Zion for supporting this renovation when significant changes and money were needed!



ELIZABETHTOWN

GAS

Hi Zion Lutheran Church ,

Congratulations! Your home is among the **most energy-efficient** within the Elizabethtown Gas service area.

• **New/Future Business:**

- Everyone is asked to be vigilant about turning off lights throughout the properties when they are not in use. Among other things, this saves energy as well as the church unnecessary expense.
- Door stop for the Faith Hall kitchen back entrance will be relocated.
- Installation of the updated Ida and Conrad plaque in the Hoehn Chapel entranceway will be done in November. The old one had been eroded and the lettering had all but disappeared; making it unreadable.
- Fields Hall door entranceway to the kitchen area lockset needs to be rebuilt. Pins appear to be worn out.



Parish Life



New Members Class

Zion receives new members into the congregation during Sunday worship typically once or twice/year. We consider church membership to be communal in nature and likewise, joining the congregation is a communal event. We offer a new members class whenever there are a number of folks who have found Zion to be a good fit as a community of faith for themselves and/or their fami-

ly.

New members class will be held on Saturday Nov 4th and on Sunday Nov 5th we shall receive new members and have a new member reception/coffee hour after church.

If you are interested in joining Zion, please let Pastor Ingrid or the church office know.

Congregational Dinner Wednesday, November 15th

Dinner starting at 6pm, Free-will Offering, proceeds go to 2024 Youth Gathering Fund

Oven Fried Chicken, Mac & Cheese and Green Beans

(Followed by Pumpkin Cake dessert). Bring a friend!

Confirmands and mentors will also meet.



Advent Wreath Project

After dinner, put together an advent wreath that you can use for all of December.

Please bring a plate from home to the dinner on which you can create your wreath.

Also, if you wish to use a certain size of jar – you can bring your own. Otherwise, we should have an assortment of jars available.

See below for examples of what a “wreath” might look like.



11/1-11/15 If you have any clean jars, please bring them in to help with this advent wreath project.

Sizes: baby food to mason jars.



Parish Life



They really liked their College Connection boxes!

I wanted to thank you all so much for the college care package that was sent! I really appreciate it and it will definitely come in handy! *Jonathan Jan*

Just wanted to email you and the rest of Zion that I received the care package that was sent to me at university. Thank you to those who put those together, very thoughtful! It was a fun surprise when I came home the other day and found the package at my doorstep. Please let all know that I'm having a sweet semester here in Virginia. Do miss home though! Looking forward to Thanksgiving break. Thank you again, and blessings! *John Trethaway*

Dear Congregation, Thank you for the gift box of tasty snacks, the semester is going very well. Thank you again, *Joe Sewald*



Saturday November 4th

We will meet at the home of Dottie Weis at 3:30pm
Please bring a favorite appetizer to share.
Beverages will be provided.
14 Flintlock Drive Long Valley.
Please rsvp to floradora5808@gmail.com
New members are always welcome.



Zion Clean-up Day

Saturday, November 18th, 9AM - 12PM
Please bring yard clean up tools such as rakes, shovels or tarps, etc. We'll rake leaves and have a general clean-up around the buildings in preparation for winter.



Family Game Night

Parish Life would like to offer a night of family fun. On *Saturday November 4th from 6-8pm*. We will have a variety of games available or feel free to bring your own. It is (BYOB&S) bring your own beverage and snacks. Please [sign up](#), so we know how many to expect.

For further information, please contact Elaine Kesler or the church office. We're excited for what will surely be a lively and fun evening!



Chester Baroque Orchestra

Presents an afternoon of French and Italian Baroque Music

November 19, 2023 - 4:00pm

at

Zion Lutheran Church

With special artistic guests:

Chester Quilting Group “Quality Pleasures”

Chester Art Group

No Admission Charge - Donations Appreciated

Exhibit / Reception Following the Concert

“Save the Date” for December events



December 3rd Long Valley Christmas Tree Lighting-Mark your calendars! The lighting of the official Long Valley Christmas tree on our front lawn will take place on **Sunday, December 3rd**. The program begins in the church sanctuary at **5 PM** and will once again feature musical talent from the Long Valley Community.
(More info to follow)



December 10th Christmas Sunday School Pageant Hello from all of us in Sunday School. We're here to tell you about our Christmas pageant. On Dec 10th at 10:30AM we will have a carol sing PLUS some instrumentals from kids who are musicians. Our play at 10:45AM tells the age old story of when Jesus was born. Come to our play and you'll find out the ending! Also there's a potluck brunch in Faith Hall after the play. Come enjoy the food -- but mostly be with us.

December 17th Christmas Cantata - It will be such a treat to hear our choir again, please come and enjoy this special service at 9:30 AM.



Christmas Giving Tree - We will once again be helping to provide Christmas gifts for those in need this year. Our Giving Tree will provide gifts to LVCAP. Stay tuned for more details, and the opportunity to participate via both a Sign Up Genius and the "tree" in the Narthex.



Poinsettias for Christmas eve



Sponsor a Wreath Fundraiser for LVCAP, see page 12.



Social Ministry Update



Wreaths Across America, Long Valley Remembers.

Please join us on December 16, 12 noon at St Mark's the Evangelist RC Church for a remembrance Ceremony honoring our deceased veterans, followed by a 1pm wreath laying at all Washington Township cemeteries. Please use the QR code for more info or to donate.



The Long Valley Food Pantry has asked for help with the following items that the pantry is low on:

- Coffee (Chock Full of Nuts is on sale)
- Crackers
- PB (crunchy)
- Jelly
- Canned fruit
- Toothpaste
- Pop Tarts & school snacks
- All Salad dressings



Social Ministry Update



Zion's 9th Annual Benefit Craft Show Is Almost Here!



Zion's Annual Benefit Craft Show will take place on
Saturday, November 11th.
Doors open at 9AM - 3PM
Great time to start your Christmas shopping!

Proceeds from the craft show will benefit Woodlands Wildlife Center in Hunterdon County. They care for orphaned and injured wildlife and rely totally on donations. An amazing place! If you'd like more information on the craft show please contact **Jeanne Howell** at jeannehow@gmail.com



Final Call: Shoebox Time

We are collecting items for our shoeboxes
We will be packing the boxes on **November 12th**
during Sunday School

Below is a list of things to collect or pack in your own box.

Items we need for boxes:

- **Toys**_foam ball, stuffed animal, harmonica, yoyo, finger puppets, dolls, toy cars, toy figures.
- **Personal Care Items** (toothbrushes and covers, combs, brushes, wash cloths, bar soap, adhesive bandages - **no** toothpaste or liquids please)
- **Crafts & Activities** puzzles and activity sets, coloring books, crayons, chalk, jump rope, playing cards, compass, gardening tools.
- **Clothing** hats, gloves, socks, shirts, pants, sunglasses, flip flops, bag/purse, hair bows.

Place your items in the collection point in the Narthex by **November 5th**
Please see [here](#) a complete guide of shoebox gift ideas by age, to pack or drop off, there will also be a paper copy in the Narthex.



Social Ministry



Ort Farms Weekend

Thank you to every one for there help once again. We couldn't do this with out all our amazing volunteers! The weather was not to co-operative this year. Saturday we did not serve as any food as the rain poured down! But Sunday cleared up and we were back in business.



Best cheese fries
You'll have to wait till next year!

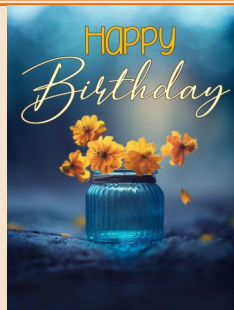
Cub Scout Coat Drive November – January

Troy Krisanda, a Webelos 4th grade Scout in Pack 136, will be coordinating a Coat Drive in partnership with Jersey Cares, collecting New or Gently Used winter coats for Men, Women, Children & Infants.

The drive will run from 11/8/23 through 1/7/24. Please consider donating new or gently used winter coats for men, women, and children in need. Donation bins will soon be in the church to drop off coats (**please no hats, gloves, or other winter accessories - just coats!**).

Thank you for helping those in need this winter!





November Birthdays

May your birthday be as vibrant as the autumn colors.

Happy Birthday!!

1 Lori Prussack

3 Gail Jones Peach

Vi Muriello

6 Jeanette Baker

Zoey Laki

7 Aron Sabino

10 Brian Bumpus

12 Hayden Andershonis

Reagan Jardim

13 Cole Kaltenhauser

14 Mitch Butynes

Marie Strebel

15 Joseph Bonina

Evie Riggs

Joseph Seewald II

16 Corey Derr

17 Cindy Hanft

Sarah Hibler Ito

24 Emily Horner Coralic

25 Charlie Davidson

28 Tom Staada

Happy Thanksgiving

Giving Thanks

The very term 'Thanksgiving' signifies expressing your appreciation and gratitude towards someone really special and wanted. On the occasion of Thanksgiving, celebrated in America, everyone offers a short prayer to express their thankfulness to God for the things they have got at the end of the harvest season. Celebrating Thanksgiving with the traditional concept of honoring.

When did the Pilgrims first say "God bless America"?

The first time they heard America sneeze!

Why can't you take a turkey to church?

Because they use such fowl language

Why did the turkey cross the road?

It was the chicken's day off

What kind of music did the Pilgrims like?

Plymouth Rock

