

Zions Newzflash

The Newsletter of Zions Church



A Letter from our Pastor

Dear friends in Christ,

This is for you...you who are going through turbulence right now. I felt led to write this newsletter article for you.

For you ...

- Who are going through times of trouble
- Who are starting to experience fear
- Who are experiencing a season of chaos in your life
- Who are hearing the sounds of thunder and seeing the earth around you melting

I've pulled those words and phrases from the 46th Psalm to draw you in. I'm writing for those of you whose lives are in a state of flux. You are uncertain what the future may hold or which way you might need to go next. Listen to the message that the Lord wants me to pass onto you from that same Psalm.

"Be still and know that I am God! ... The Lord of Heaven's Armies is here among us; the God of Israel is our fortress." Psalm 46:10-11

What's the message to you as you are going through whatever you are experiencing right now? Just be still and trust the Lord. He is present with you, right now. In this moment, the God of the universe is with you, and while everything might be overwhelming in its uncertainty, God is with you, right now.

Rather than run ahead and feel compelled to make decisions to solve your problems, in this moment, in this day, maybe even in this week, just pause for a moment, and "Be still and know that I am God!"

Not very practical. It may not seem to change anything. But it's a message that God asked me to deliver to someone because it's what God in his wisdom wants you to hear and do. Be still. Just be still. And trust that the Lord is present with you, right now. Be still and trust him with your uncertain future. He is present with you right now.

With the love of Jesus and prayers,
Randy

NEW MEMBER CLASS

- Sunday, Sept. 24th from 3-7pm
- If you would like to learn more about Jesus, the workings of our church, and join the membership of the congregation, we'd love for you to come!
- Please call the church office at 610-562-2300 or email info@zionschurch.org to let us know of your interest so we have an idea of how many people to expect.

Z-WORLD

Z-World Weekend Edition will be on July 29 & 30 this year. Z-World is a FREE 2-day family event filled with time to share laughs and make memories together as a family. Activities include Zip-Line, Slip 'N Slide, Car Wash, Alpine Slide, Pirate Ships, and Bumper Cars. Pre-registration is required. For more information or to register, visit Z-world.org or call Jenn Scott at 610-562-2300, option 6.

MOVIE SHOWING

Date: July 16, 2023
 Movie: War Room
 Time: Arrive at the JOURNEY CAFE any time after 12:30 for a light free lunch at 1pm and movie at 2pm.
 The showing is open to all Zion's church family and friends.
 Hope to see you there!

Z-WORLD: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Help is needed to set up before the event, during the event (activities, parking, food, etc.), and cleaning up after the event.

To volunteer to serve or find out more information, contact Jenn Scott at Jennifer.Scott@zionschurch.org or 610-562-2300, option 6.

INFANT NURSERY

Do you love babies and young children? Do you have just 2 hours to volunteer every month?

If you answered yes to both those questions, we need your help to watch children up to 2 years old during the 9:40 Sunday service.

The commitment is just 1 Sunday per month, and you'll be serving with 1-2 others. Volunteers need current PA Childcare Clearances, but we can help you get those if you don't have them already.

The infant nursery has been busy since we reopened it a year ago. Thanks to our amazing volunteers, we've been able to serve a lot of parents, but we've had some recent vacancies.

If you'd like to help fill them please contact Amy at amy.miller08@gmail.com or 484-225-6217.

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

THINGS TO REMEMBER

JULY DATES

- WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 19, 26 @ 6:30 PM
 - ONE Bible Study
 - Journey Cafe
- FRIDAY, JULY 21 @ 6:30 PM
 - Ladies Game Night
 - Journey Cafe
- SATURDAY, JULY 22 @ 1 PM
 - Ordination Service
 - Sanctuary
- SAT & SUN, JULY 29 & 30
 - Z-World
 - Bottom Parking Lot/Sanctuary

FREE DEVOTIONALS

If you aren't sure where to start with daily devotions or want some different resources for continuing your spiritual journey, we have you covered! Zion's has purchased numerous copies of daily devotionals including:

- Keys for Kids
- Our Daily Bread
- These Days
- Encounter with God
- Discovery

July/August/September copies have recently been stocked.

Pick one up on the racks in the entry hallway or across from the main floor restrooms.

PRIME TIMERS

- SATURDAY, JULY 1 @ 9 AM
 - Friendship Circle Breakfast
 - Perry Restaurant
- FRIDAY, JULY 14 @ 12 PM
 - Car Wash
 - Journey Cafe
- FRIDAY, JULY 14 @ 1 PM
 - Prime Timers Council
 - Fellowship Hall
- SATURDAY, JULY 29 @ 12 PM
 - Lunch
 - Ozgood's in Kutztown

YOU'RE INVITED

- To the ORDINATION of Pastor Monte Schroeder
 - Saturday, July 22 @ 1 PM
 - Zions Church
 - 770 Zions Church Rd.
 - Hamburg, PA
 - Reception to follow
 - 3 PM
 - Virginville Grange Hall
 - Main Street
 - Virginville, PA
 - Please RSVP for reception
 - by July 16
 - 610-562-3548
 - Or email monte.schroeder@evangelical.edu
 - Or use the sign-up sheet on the large bulletin board

*From the lips of children and infants
you, Lord, have called forth your praise.*

Active Attack Preparedness

A.L.I.C.E. ~ Sponsored by the Safety Team

The Safety Team, along with 19 church members, attended a seminar in determining the most reasonable way to protect you and others in case an active shooter is in your vicinity.

An Active Shooter is an individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area; in most cases, active shooters use firearms(s) and there is no pattern or method to their selection of victims. Active shooter situations are unpredictable and evolve quickly. An active shooter may be anyone. If you notice something out of the ordinary tell other members of the church. **IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING.**

1. Alert - Alert is your first notification of danger.

ALERT is when you first become aware of a threat. The sooner you understand that you're in danger, the sooner you can save yourself. A speedy response is critical. Seconds count.

2. Lockdown - Barricade the room. Prepare to EVACUATE or COUNTER if needed.

If **EVACUATION** is not a safe option, barricade entry points into your room to create a semi-secure starting point. Avoid windows and stay out of line of sight.

3. Inform - Communicate the violent intruder's location and direction in real time.

The purpose of **INFORM** is to continue to communicate information in as real time as possible **if it is safe to do so. CALL 911.** Armed intruder situations are unpredictable and evolve quickly, which means that ongoing, real-time information to the 911 dispatcher is key to making effective survival decisions. Information should always be clear, direct and in plain language, not using codes. If the shooter is known to be in an isolated section of a building, occupants in other parts of the building can safely evacuate while those in direct danger can perform enhanced lockdown and prepare to counter.

4. Counter - Create Noise, Movement, Distance and Distraction with the intent of reducing the shooter's ability to shoot accurately. Counter is NOT fighting.

While confronting a violent intruder is not always the best method for ensuring the safety of those involved, but **Counter is a strategy of last resort.** Counter focuses on actions that create noise, movement, distance, and distraction with the intent of reducing the shooter's ability to shoot accurately. Creating a dynamic environment decreases the shooter's chance of hitting a target and can provide the precious seconds needed to evacuate. As a last resort and only when your life is in imminent danger, attempt to incapacitate the active shooter by throwing of any object such as song books, bibles, purses, etc. to distract the shooter.

5. Evacuate - When safe to do so, remove yourself from the danger zone.

Evacuating to a safe area takes people out of harm's way and hopefully prevents civilians from having to come into any contact with the shooter. However, before evacuating be sure to check that your escape way is clear, including outside, as a shooter may not be alone.

A THANK YOU

Hello church family!

I recently was on a missions trip to the Dominican Republic. We spent most of our time at a Christian elementary school in Los Tres Brazos. We taught many English and gym classes. The kids were also eager to teach us Spanish! It was such a neat experience seeing the close relationships that the students had with their teachers and how they prayed together at the start of each school day. We had the opportunity to lead a Bible study for the teenagers. My favorite part of the trip was going out into the community and visiting some elderly individuals. Most of them had an illness which caused them to be bedridden. We were able to pray over them and sing for them. The Holy Spirit was definitely at work during this trip. God provided many opportunities for our team to grow closer to the Lord and to each other. I am grateful that I was able to learn more about the Dominican culture and spend time with the beautiful people in Los Tres Brazos. I ask for continued prayers for the kids and their families. Specifically for protection and that the Lord would continue to send people that will share the good news that Jesus wants a personal relationship with them! This trip would not have been possible without your generous support, thank you again.

God Bless, Jillian Houser



****Zion's Church, through the Missions Team, offers financial contributions to church members looking to serve the Lord through domestic and international missions trips. If you're going on a missions trip this year, we want to know about it and we want to help! Contact Emily.Adams@zionschurch.org for a financial assistance application.**