



November 2023

# ZIONS NEWZFLASH



610-562-2300



[www.zionschurch.org](http://www.zionschurch.org)



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770 Zion Church Rd., Hamburg, Pa

## A LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

Friends!

We're in our eighteenth year of ministry at The Journey Café. It's hard to believe that so many years have gone by. Hundreds of teens, probably several thousand, have been touched by some aspect of the ministry that's occurred in that space.

Thank you for all of your support. Some of you remember those early days of making the decision to acquire and create that space. Countless others have volunteered in the after-school ministry, as well as at Rock Us on Wednesday evenings. It's been amazing.

This upcoming January 7, at 11 am, we hope to take another step in using that space to serve Jesus. We want to begin an additional Sunday morning worship, which will hopefully reach some of the young adults in our community. Although anyone is more than welcome to come, our goal is to reach young adults who are at the age where they might drift away from church and Jesus. Dan Bailey ran across this crazy statistic that suggested that 2/3 of the people who have grown up in church drift away from active involvement with the faith between the ages of 18 and 22. That's in addition to all the young adults who never actively pursued Jesus to begin with! We're hoping that the different worship experience we are creating will enable us to engage some young adults who currently are not actively pursuing the Lord.

Dan and I have been talking this through weekly and praying about this for a long time. We've secured the support and approval of the elders and Consistory, and now we're asking for your prayerful support. We expect that we will begin small and we're hoping the experience will grow. We are going to create as many opportunities as possible for people to connect back with the main church during the course of the upcoming year. Additionally, we have decided not to create any children's programming in that space. As those young adults become parents, we will encourage them to make the shift to the main church and become active participants, adding greater strength and vitality for our future.

We have had various encouraging signs as we've made our preparations. We believe that the Lord is truly leading us down this path. We look forward to seeing what He does in us and through us as He continues to use the space of The Journey Café.

Thanks again for your prayerful support.



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## LIFE-SIZED CANDY LAND

A Sweet Celebration of Christmas  
Saturday, December 2nd  
1-4 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Play the classic board game, Candy Land, in a life-sized version with your family.

Travel through the Peppermint Forest, Peanut Acres, Gumdrops Mountains, Lollipop Lane, and Snowflake Lake to get to the King in the Candy Castle. A sweet way to celebrate Christmas!

RSVP: [zionschurch.org/register](https://zionschurch.org/register)

Questions: [jennifer.scott@zionschurch.org](mailto:jennifer.scott@zionschurch.org) or 610-562-2300 option 6

## INSPIRED SISTERS ANNUAL WOMEN'S RETREAT

Nov. 3-5 at Willow Pond Resort

If you've already signed up for the Women's Retreat, you should have received an email with a good amount of info about who, what, where, when and how.

But if you didn't, email Marie Perry at [mperry@kassay.com](mailto:mperry@kassay.com) right away.

We can't wait to see you there - enjoy the road trip to Honesdale!

## PRIME TIMERS

- Friendship Circle Breakfast
  - CANCELLED
- Appreciation Dinner
  - SAT, Nov. 4 @ 12 p.m.
  - The Journey Cafe
- Prime Timers Council Meeting
  - FRI, Nov. 10 @ 1 p.m.
  - Fellowship Hall
- Lunch/BINGO
  - MON, Nov. 13 @ 11:30 a.m.
  - Fellowship Hall
- Games/Lunch
  - FRI, Nov. 17 @ 10 a.m.
  - The Journey Cafe

## FRIENDSGIVING

Hosted by: The Walk

Come join us for our 3rd annual Friendsgiving. We will be meeting on November 12th at the Journey Cafe at 5:30 pm. Feel free to bring a dish although we already have the Turkey covered (in gravy, I hope). It's sure to be a fun night, all young adults welcome!

## ZION'S BELLS

Did you ever think of handbell ringing as a sport? IT IS!!! And, it requires TEAMWORK like no other sport I can think of!!! The handbell ringers WORK TOGETHER in harmony as ONE to complete their goal: BEAUTIFUL MUSIC IN PRAISE OF OUR LORD!!!

Zion's Bells began rehearsals on October 3rd and are blessed to have 12 ringers.

We hope you will be able to join us when we play on November 5th at 8:15 a.m.

Thank You,  
Linda Hartman





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## WEDNESDAY BABYSITTING

Do you love small children and want to serve parents at Zions?

We are looking for another volunteer or two to provide childcare on Wednesday nights for the kids who are too young to attend Planet Shakers – infant to pre-K.

If you are available from 6:15 to 8 PM at least one Wednesday a month and have your PA Child Clearances or are willing to get them, please contact Amy at [amy.miller08@gmail.com](mailto:amy.miller08@gmail.com) or 484-225-6217.

Thank you for your consideration!

## LIBRARY HELP WANTED

Do you enjoy Christian fiction or nonfiction? Do you want to help make Biblically sound Christian books and DVDs available for children and adults at Zions? Then we need you!

We are looking for a few helpers for the church library.

If you have a heart for this issue, please contact Deanna Bond at (484)332-8397 or [mygodmysaviour@gmail.com](mailto:mygodmysaviour@gmail.com) to learn more.



## SPOTLIGHT ON MISSIONS

### Life's Choices

"Is this Life's Choices? Oh, thank goodness! I just took a test and found out I'm pregnant. I have no support and I have so much going on in my life. My friend told me to call you."

Life's Choices has been helping women process the news of an unplanned pregnancy for over 37 years at our Kutztown location and more recently, in Hamburg. Our mission is "providing practical help in an atmosphere of hope to relieve the internal and external pressures that drive women towards abortion."

Our first response is to offer an ultrasound to give her vital information and allow her to see the tiny heartbeat, confirmation of the life growing inside of her. Hearing about her options in a controlled, professional environment calms the chaos inside of her and allows her to make a decision based on facts rather than emotions.

When a woman makes a choice for life, our Baby Bundle Healthy Start program provides her with education and support to prepare for her new baby. Our parenting support services include individualized classes, case management and the opportunity to earn free baby items like diapers, clothing, and even a brand-new crib or car seat if she completes the required number of classes.

Life's Choices also takes a preventative approach to crisis pregnancies by offering healthy relationship education in local middle schools and high schools like Hamburg, Reading, and other Berks County schools. We understand the importance of teaching students to avoid the risks of sexual activity and optimize their opportunities for a successful future. We also offer STD testing, relationship mentoring and abortion healing ministries.

Jesus said, "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life and have it to the full." (John 10:10) It is our goal to promote choices through our free and confidential services that result in the full, thriving, abundant life that Jesus came to give.