

ZION'S NEWSFLASH

The official newsletter of Zion's Church

Letter from our Pastor

BY RANDY BOND

Hi friends!

I love Spring. I love it!

What I like about Spring really is watching all the plants that were essentially dead during the winter season come back to life. Watching those plants come back to life actually brings me joy.

And it reminds me of the resurrection truth. There is life after death. It's an annual message that comes from nature itself, and I'm not sure that it's a coincidence. I believe that God designed it that way. There's this line in the first chapter of Romans that says, "Ever since God created the world, his invisible qualities, both his eternal power and his divine nature, have been clearly seen; they are perceived in the things that God has made."

Jesus made a similar statement when he came into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. All the people were praising Jesus, and the Pharisees wanted Jesus to tell them to be quiet. "Jesus answered, 'I tell you that if they keep quiet, the stones themselves will start shouting.'" Luke 19:40

I really think that the Lord uses nature itself to bear witness to Him, His love, and His plan.

One time I was talking to a person about their depression. I was in the person's home, and as we talked, they pointed to the tree in their front yard. It was in the winter season, and all the branches were devoid of any leaves. She pointed into a greater distance and there was a small grove of even bigger trees, again, without any leaves.

She made this observation about all the empty branches. They seemed to be shaped in a bunch of 'W's. In her mind, right outside her window with the backdrop of the sky, were hundreds of W's...all the first letter of a singular word that haunted her. "Why?"

As I looked at what she was seeing, right outside her window I saw the same tree, I saw the configuration of the branches, but I also saw one more thing: buds. All over the tree, at the tip of every single limb was a bud, and with each bud was the promise of new life in the spring. She had never looked at it that way before. It changed her perspective and held some value for her.

I invite you to do the same. Change your perspective. You can make a mental shift. It takes some discipline, but you can bounce your thoughts to a different perspective. Stop focusing on the whys and start focusing on the new life and the new possibilities.

Nature, the creation of the Lord, is crying for you to change your perspective. Winter is over. Death is in the past. Now, new life has begun.

As I'm reflecting, I'm thinking of the lines of a wonderful hymn. Maybe you want to sing it with me:

*Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me*

Let's celebrate the new day that is today. It's a new beginning, created by the Lord from his heart of love. Enjoy and embrace the day.



Special Music for Easter

SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 2023

Do you like to sing? Please join me on Easter Sunday, April 9th at the 8:15 AM Service to sing the choir anthem, He Is Risen. We will practice on Thursday, March 30th from 7:15 PM to 8:00 PM in the choir room and then again on Thursday, April 6th at 6:30 PM before the Maundy Thursday service.

Please contact Sharon Stump at 610-756-3476 or sls2horses@gmail.com if you are interested. It would be wonderful to have a full choir to sing in celebration of our risen Lord.

In the Middle of a Miracle

BELL CHOIR

Sometimes we are in the middle of a miracle, we just don't know it yet!
I am pretty sure that is where I am with Zion's Bells...
In the middle of a miracle!!!
In preparation for one of our Easter selections, we have now added another table, BIG bells and a new ringer!
We Are Incredibly Blessed!!!

This group of AWESOME people work and PLAY so well together!!!
(Get it? PLAY + handbells.)
We are now in the penitential season of Lent. On March 26th, Zion's Bells will be sharing two Lenten favorites during the prelude at the 8:15 a.m. service. We are hoping our gifts of music add meaning to your Lenten season.
Thank You,
Zion's Bells and Linda

Women's Daytime Bible Study

HOSTED BY: FAYE WEIDENHAMMER

After a winter break, the Women's Daytime Bible Study will be starting up on March 22, 2023. Topics for this upcoming spring session will be "Heaven" and "Practical Applications of the Bible to Everyday Living." This Bible study meets every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall here at Zion's Church.

If you are too busy to attend a weekly Bible study full time, you are always welcome to stop in for a visit and enjoy a morning of fellowship with Christian women and perhaps gain a few new insights into the Bible while you are there. Since meeting dates change sometimes due to holidays or events, check the calendar in the church bulletin or call the church office (610-562-2300) to verify a meeting date.

Ski & Snowboard Trip #2

BLUE MOUNTAIN SKI AREA, PALMERTON

If the time and date of the last trip didn't work out for you, you were missed, and we would like to try and get you there for the next one!

Reach out to Marie Perry at mperry@kassay.com - she's working on another trip for March!



The Chosen

STARTING SUNDAY MARCH 19

"The Chosen" Watch Group will start back up again on Sunday, March 19 at 6:30 pm. Let Marie Perry know if you're interested.

We had a great group as we went through the first two seasons together, and we're super excited about Season 3. We'd love to have you watch and discuss with us.

Kitchen Team

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Zion's Kitchen Team is looking for a few people that would be interested in helping to prep, serve, and/or clean-up food that is needed for some Zion's events. Any amount of time you can help serve is appreciated. The times and events vary, but the most recent one was the Children's Ministry SNOW DAY FUN on a Sunday where a lunch menu was served.

Currently we are just looking to create a list of any people willing to help in this capacity so the 'load' is shared by many.

If you are interested in helping in the kitchen area for upcoming Zion's events, please contact Tony Schappell at aesuperworms@icloud.com. Thank you for considering helping out the Kitchen Team.

Life's Choices Spring Chicken 5K

SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2023

Many of us have participated in this event over the last few years - you should join us!!!! It doesn't matter if you want to run, skip, walk, hop, sashay - you do your thing, but do it with friends!

More details next month, but put it on your calendar and watch for email updates from the Inspired Sisters website.

Inspired Sisters

EMAIL SUBSCRIPTION

Are you receiving emails from Inspired Sisters? If you aren't, please subscribe (if you haven't already, visit inspiredsisters.org to subscribe!), or check your spam, or update your email. We generally send out emails once or twice a month as announcements or updates of info for planned or upcoming activities and events.

Notifications may also come through our church's REALM system, but it's a great way to make sure you know what the ladies of Zion's are up to.

Inspired Sisters Women's Conference

SATURDAY, MAY 13, 2023

DATE CHANGE!!! Unfortunately, we needed to reschedule. The event was originally scheduled for April 29th but has been moved to May 13, 2023 at the Journey Café.

More details to follow, so keep your eyes on your email.

Spring Cleaning

ZION CEMETERY CO. INC.

Zion Cemetery Co. Inc. of Perry Township has set the week of March 12-18, 2023 for spring cleaning. All decorations not planted in the ground will be removed if not claimed before this week by lot owners. The Cemetery Board is not responsible for decorations remaining on graves when spring cleaning begins.

New and existing decorations may be placed March 19, 2023. Single or multiple grave lots are available for sale. Please contact David Geschwindt, Cemetery Manager, at 610-562-7421.

Prime Timers

DATES TO REMEMBER

3/4/2023	9 a.m.	Friendship Circle Breakfast	Perry Restaurant
3/10/2023	1 p.m.	PT Council meeting	Fellowship Hall
3/13/2023	11:30 a.m.	BINGO/Light Lunch	Fellowship Hall
3/17/2023	10 a.m.	Games/Light Lunch	Journey Café
3/25/2023	12 noon	Lunch	Crossroads