



Zions Newzflash

October 2024

Letter from Our Pastor

Friends!

While in Louisiana with Samaritan's Purse helping people recover from Hurricane Francine, I went down memory lane with a person I reconnected with—John Bowman. John was the center director from years ago after Hurricane Katrina (2005). We talked about our shared memories, and then when the large group sharing time came for the evening, I recalled several of my experiences from years ago. One of the memories I shared actually involved another group's experience that had occurred in Mississippi.

That group had mistakenly (actually by God's grace) gone to the wrong home. The homeowner didn't answer the door when they knocked. They climbed onto the roof anyway and started making repairs. At lunch, after several hours of work, to their surprise, the homeowner came out of the house. He had been there all along. At the very moment they were repairing the man's roof, he had been sitting on his sofa with a gun, planning to end it all. Because they came, his hope was restored, and God entered his life.

After recalling that story that had happened in Mississippi probably 18 years ago, a fellow volunteer in Louisiana approached me. He told me something amazing. He was actually a part of that group who had repaired the roof of that suicidal man. He told me that his church had arranged for that man, whose life was spared, to come to their church in Florida to share his testimony. And now, I knew '...the rest of the story...'

Jesus made a statement one time according to the Scriptures. Paul quoted Jesus as having said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." (Acts 20:35) That's what I've experienced throughout life.

Let's be honest. It takes a certain amount of sacrifice to take time out of your schedule and go on a trip with Samaritan's Purse. Often people have taken a week of vacation, but most of us have come back from those experiences saying that we have received more out of the experience than we've given. That's certainly been my experience.


You have all kinds of opportunities to serve. You could go on a future trip with Samaritan's Purse to help people recover from Hurricane Helene. Or you could sponsor a child through Compassion International (there will be some children available for sponsorship early in October). Or you could fill an Operation Christmas Child shoe box and give some children the blessing of some much-appreciated gifts for Christmas. Or you could respond to the call to volunteer in our own church in Sunday School or the Café or in some other setting.

What's the common element to all of these opportunities? If you serve or give, you will make some sort of sacrifice. You will give some of your time or your talent or your money. For example, if you make a weekly commitment to helping in the Sunday School of our church, you will be donating some time out of your life for the sake of others. In return, you will grow in your faith, and you will experience moments when those children's spiritual eyes light up with an insight or the acceptance of Jesus into their lives.

That's the blessing. That's what Jesus is talking about—it really is more blessed to give than to receive. It's in the giving that you will, in turn, be blessed.

What's the message? Say yes. Say yes to serving. Say yes to giving. Which is saying yes to Jesus. And when you do, you will be making a sacrifice of some sort, but in the end, you will be blessed. That's a promise from our Savior, Jesus Christ.

In his love,
Randy



Contact Us

Zion's Church

info@zionschurch.org

610-562-2300

www.zionschurch.org



News

Bell Choir

Zion's Bells are Back in Business!!!

We're Busy

Malleting...Singing...Swinging...Ringing!!!

REHEARSALS BEGAN ON

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1 at 6 P.M.

I'm so glad we are back to work!!!

Linda Hartman

P.S. Hoping to be ringing in church on October 27
at the 8:15 a.m. service.

Hayride

"The Walk" Young Adults are hosting an all-church hayride on Saturday, October 19th. Arrive at 6:30pm, hayride at 7pm. Cookies and hot cocoa will be served afterwards, along with a campfire. Rain date is Sunday, October 20th at the same times. Check out The Walk's Facebook and Instagram or talk to Nate or Kaylum to sign up!

Prime Timers

Breakfast	10/5/24	9 AM	Perry Diner
Bingo	10/7/24	11:30 AM	FH
Games	10/18/24	10 AM	Journey
Lunch	10/26/24	12 NOON	Fiore's

Consistory Corner

We've been approached by Three Strands Community Center about bringing a joint venture to the Journey Cafe.

Three Strands focuses on faith, family, and fitness. We're currently exploring this idea and will update the congregation soon.

Knitting

Would you like to learn how to knit? Read a pattern? Choose a pattern and receive help to complete it?

Come join this group - all ages ok - held Thursday nights from 6:30-8pm at the Journey Cafe, led by Sandy Plummer and Bev Sander.

Hope to see you there starting October 3rd!

We'll have yarn and needles for the beginners, or bring your own.

No need to sign up, just show up!

Men's Ministry



DRIVEN UPCOMING EVENTS

“to Walk beside each man pointing him to Christ
because He is the way, the truth, and the life.”
John 14:6

Open to Men 18+

OCTOBER 11th thru 13th	BAND OF BROTHERS MENS RETREAT Camp Orchard Hill - Dallas, PA \$195/person or \$100/person Day Rate Weekend Rate includes 4 meals, lodging and programming.
NOVEMBER 16th @ 2:45 pm	HIKE TO PULPIT ROCK & CAMPFIRE Blue Rocks Campground - Lenhartsville, PA Hike to Pulpit Rock, leaving promptly @ 3 pm Hotdogs and Campfire to follow

HAPPENING WEEKLY

SUNDAYS 9:40 AM Room 108	DRIVEN FOUNDRY SUNDAY SCHOOL <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Diving deep into scripture with discussion• Fellowship, Time of Prayer
TUESDAYS 6:30p - 8:30p Fellowship Hall	KNIGHTS BIBLE STUDY <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Various group studies With large and small group discussions.• Fellowship, Time of Prayer, Light Snack

 drivenmensministry@gmail.com

Moms of the Vine

10/13: BYO light lunch and walk along Bartram trail (stroller friendly!) We will meet in the parking lot at 12:30pm (entrance to parking lot is next to Camping World in Hamburg), eat our lunches at the picnic table next to the parking lot, then go for our walk (about 2 miles). Hope to see you there! Text Amanda with any questions at 610-741-5240.

10/24: Join us for a fun morning of pumpkin roll making and Q-tip tree crafts in the Fellowship Hall at 10am. We will enjoy our pumpkin rolls... along with some coffee or tea paired with some engaging discussions.

Wreaths Across America

W.A.A is a national, non-profit organization which began over 30 years ago in Harrington, Maine. Mr. Morrill Worcester, owner of Worcester Wreath Company, had about 5000 surplus wreaths in 1992. He decided to honor our country's veterans with these wreaths. And so W.A.A. began at Arlington National Cemetery. The number of wreaths placed on veteran graves has grown to about 3 million last year! Mr. Worcester has said he hopes to have a wreath on every veteran's grave sometime in the foreseeable future.

This year, Zion's Cemetery is a registered location for W.A.A. We have over 250 veterans buried at Zion's Cemetery. Wreaths can be sponsored for \$17.00 each through Boy Scout Troop 163 on the WAA website. There's also some wonderful information about WAA and you can sign up to volunteer, along with Boy Scout Troop 163. The event, sponsorship of veteran wreaths, and volunteering on 12/14/24 for placement of sponsored wreaths are open to everyone in our community. Please sign up to volunteer! Be sure to use the sponsorship Group ID for the Boy Scout Troop (PA0868) and the Location ID for Zions Cemetery (PAZTPT) (all capital letters).

On 12/14/2024 at noon, there will be a Remembrance Ceremony followed by wreath placement. Refreshments and restrooms will be provided in the church Fellowship Hall. The wreaths will then be placed on veteran graves.

When you sponsor or sign up to volunteer, the IDs guarantee your wreath will be at Zion's Cemetery. Please contact Michelle Koletar for more information! Thank you! Please help to honor our veterans with WAA on 12/14/24!

www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org

Michele Koletar

Volunteer Location Coordinator and Assistant Caretaker for Zions Cemetery Co. Inc. of PT
610-781-4037 or m68m79@yahoo.com

Women's Daytime Bible Study

To Pursue a prayer-life that availeth much—that is the goal of this fall's Women's Daytime Bible Study. Many Christians today find themselves just too busy to spend time in daily prayer, often offering up short, hurried prayers. Some tend to become discouraged with the results of their prayers, and even become weary of prayer time. This study is not about teaching the components of a prayer; it's not even about teaching someone how to pray. This session is aimed at encouraging and teaching us how to overcome the hindrances to a powerful prayer-life.

This Bible Study started on Wednesday, September 11, 2024, but it is not too late to join in. The group will continue to meet every Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in Room 201 (the Meeting Room) here at Zion's church until Thanksgiving.

If you can't attend a weekly Bible Study regularly, you are always welcome to stop in for a visit and enjoy a morning of Christian fellowship and perhaps gain a few new insights into the Bible during your visit. Since meeting dates are sometimes changed due to holidays or events, check the calendar in our church's weekly bulletin or call the church office (610-562-2300) to verify a meeting date. This weekly Bible Study is led by Faye Weidenhammer.

Children & Family Ministry

Fall Happenings

Family Fall Festival

Saturday, October 5th

4:00-7:00 pm

200 ft. Alpine Slide rides, walk through maze, pumpkin carving, farm animals, hayrides, games, food, & more

RSVP at zionschurch.org/register

B.L.A.S.T. Kids

Being Light and Salt Together
Sundays at 9:40 am
3 years old--5th Grade

September 8th
3rd graders receive Bibles

October 6th
Fall Fun theme

Planet Shakers

Where K-5th graders learn to shake up the world for Jesus
Wednesdays from 6:30-8:00 pm

Make new friends as we learn together
to live for Jesus with hands-on games
and activities

November 27th - NO Planet Shakers

Save the Date

A Grinchy Gathering

Saturday, December 7th
1:00-4:00 pm

Visit "Who-ville" with your family
and learn with the Grinch there's
more to Christmas than gifts

sign up at zionschurch.org/register

Moms of the Vine

Where moms & kids can share life together & grow in Christ

Join us: Facebook: MomsOfTheVine

Bartram Trail Walk/Lunch

Sunday, October 13th - 12:30pm

Pumpkin Rolls & Autumn Craft

Thursday, October 24th - 10am-12pm
in the fellowship hall

More Info

www.zionschurch.org

Jennifer.Scott@zionschurch.org

610-562-2300, option 6