

Zions Newzflash

770 ZION CHURCH RD. HAMBURG PA

JANUARY 2025



LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

Happy New Year!

How do you feel about surprises?

It depends, right? Is it a positive surprise or negative surprise?

This year will bring surprises. Events and experiences will happen that we could never forecast occurring.

Just think about Joseph in the Old Testament. Life was going well. He was the favored son. He had been given a special coat of many colors, and then one year it all went downhill. His brothers thought of killing him and sold him into slavery instead. That happened one year. In slavery in Egypt, he was elevated to a position of honor in Potiphar's household. That happened another year. Then, in the next year, he was falsely accused of trying to seduce his slave owner's wife. The next year, he was thrown in prison...you probably know the story. I don't need to recount all the details.

The point is he had surprises, sometimes good, sometimes terrible. However, by the end of the story, he saw clearly that God was taking care of his entire family in spite of all the good and bad surprises along the way. He concluded, "So it was God who sent me here, not you! And he is the one who made me an advisor to Pharaoh..."
Genesis 45:8

Sometimes when unexpected things happen in our lives, Deanna will say, "God isn't surprised by this event."

That's really true. There isn't anything that will happen in this new year that will be a surprise to God. Nothing!

That thought is a comfort to me. God has already gone before us in this year, and while the ride may get bumpy, God will not be surprised.

Trust the Lord in this new year.

With Jesus' love, *Randy Bond*

New Member Class

Whether you've been coming to Zion's for years or just a few months, we'd love to have you become a member of the church. Join Pastor Randy at the Journey Cafe on January 5th from 3-7 pm for pizza, fellowship, and fun... and some learning, as well! Email info@zionschurch.org to let us know you're coming or just show up.

Annual Report

All articles to be included in the 2024 Annual Report to the congregation must be submitted to Emily Adams by Sunday, January 5th. Team leaders are asked to prepare a report for their area of responsibility.

Cherry Blossom Festival

Wondering how to check "Visit New Places" off your bucket list? Sign up to go to the Cherry Blossom Festival this Year! And for \$50 you'll be transported to Washington D.C. to explore how you want for 7 hours and then be brought back! Deadline for signup is February 28th. Sign up on [Realm](https://realm.com), or at zionschurch.org/register, or speak to Dan Smith.

Zion's Bells

Happy New Year, Everyone!

As we say "Good-bye to 2024," we thank the Lord for His endless blessings and wait with faith and joy to see what He has planned for us in the New Year! We look forward to learning and sharing more music to honor and glorify our Precious Savior!

Thank You, Congregation,
for all your support of the handbell choir...

Our Very Best to You for 2025!

January 26th will be our next Sunday of ringing at the 8:15 a.m. worship service.

Zion's Bells

Consistory Corner

- The search for a new Pastor is moving along quickly and we anticipate having more information for the congregation soon.

Redner's Receipts

We would like to thank everyone that turned in Redner's Receipts for the Save-a-Tape program. We tallied up 575 Receipts and earned \$310.73 from Redner's in the year 2024. We will continue this program in 2025, so if you have a Redner's receipt (in which you've used your Redner's Rewards card), please drop it in the box at the back of the sanctuary.

Prime Timers

- Friendship Circle Breakfast
 - Jan 4 at 9 am
 - Perry Restaurant
- Game Day
 - Jan 17 at 10 am
 - Journey Cafe

CHILDREN & FAMILY EVENTS

January 2025

Weekly Programs

B.L.A.S.T. Kids

Being Light and Salt Together

Sundays at 9:40 am
3 years old - 5th grade

The kids collected \$250 for our Christmas gift for Jesus to purchase chickens and goats for impoverished families through Compassion. Thank you for everyone's generous donations.

Planet Shakers

Where K-5th graders learn to shake up the world for Jesus

Wednesdays - 6:30-8:00 pm

No Planet Shakers

January 1st & 8th

Planet Shakers resumes

January 15th

Save the Date

Blacklights & Brunch

Sunday, March 23rd

9:40 am - 12:45 pm

Blacklight fun for the kids during the Sunday school hour followed by brunch and blacklight games for the family.

rsvp: zionschurch.org/register

Moms of the Vine

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

Hot Cocoa Bar

Monday, January 6th

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Facebook: [MomsOfTheVine](https://www.facebook.com/MomsOfTheVine)

More Info

Jennifer.Scott@zionschurch.org

610-562-2300, option 6