

ZIONS NEWZFLASH

MAY 2025

Letter From Our Pastor

Greetings Zion's Church!

I'm writing to you from an airplane on our way to the west coast of Florida for a family vacation. Yesterday was my last day at FedEx (praise God), and, in three weeks, we'll be in Hamburg to begin serving Zion's Church. Oh, and grandma is with us for the trip! The best I can do at the moment is utter a sigh of relief that God has made his will and his call clear—for me, for our family, and for Zion's Church. This next week will be a time to process, play, and let God speak.

By the time you read this, we will already be in Hamburg, and God will already have made the final way to get us there. We have so many thoughts and emotions about this transition, like getting to know all of you, getting to explore the area, and getting to become part of the community. But, most of all, we are amazed, in awe, and astonished at what God has done to bring us here, and what God is going to do—which will, no doubt, amaze us! I am reminded of a powerful passage of Scripture that I'd like to share with all of you, and I want to challenge you to think on it and pray on what it may mean for the next chapter at Zion's Church.

Joshua 3:2-5 says, "After three days the officers went throughout the camp, giving orders to the people: 'When you see the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God, and the Levitical priests carrying it, you are to move out from your positions and follow it. Then you will know which way to go, since you have never been this way before. . . .' Joshua told the people, 'Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do amazing things among you.'"

Now, I'll leave you with three things that stand out to me about this passage. (1) You have never been this way before, so expect divine guidance. (2) Now is the time to "consecrate" yourselves. Set your life apart wholly for God, for his worship, and for his call and purposes. (3) Tomorrow, in this next season, the Lord our God will do amazing things among us! Praise be to God!

Love in Christ,
Pastor Roy and family

Bell Choir

I Am Truly Grateful...

Grateful for this beautiful family known as Zion's Bells.

Grateful for our time together...time spent sharing and caring.

Grateful for their unselfish dedication to giving God the Glory through handbell ringing.

And now, as our season comes to a close, I want to say, "Thank You, Zion's Bells, for all the love and joy you put into my heart."

We close this music season on May 4th at the 8:15 a.m. service with the inspiring song, "I Will Lift Mine Eyes Unto the Hills" based on Psalm 121. It is a song filled with comfort, peace and love.

I can't think of a more appropriate song to end our season with. Can you?

I am sincerely humbled and honored to be a part of Zion's Bells,
Linda

Consistory Corner

Yearbooks will be available for purchase at the end of May. Please visit the welcome center to find out more!

Lost & Found

Are you or someone in your family missing any of the following items:

- Folding Umbrella
- Coffee/Water Mugs with Lids
- Handheld Battery Operated Fan
- Knit Hats

If so, please check the Lost and Found box located at the coat rack outside the upstairs restrooms to claim your items. Items left behind on a Sunday morning will be placed in the Lost and Found box for pickup the following Sunday.



Prime Timers

• SAT. May 2	9 AM	Friendship Breakfast	Perry Restaurant
• MON. May 12	11:30 AM	Bingo & Lunch	Fellowship Hall
• FRI. May 16	10 AM	Game Day	Journey Cafe
• SAT. May 17	6 PM	Oldies Dance	Journey Cafe
• SAT. May 31	12 PM	The Lunch Bunch	Ozgood's (K-town)

MEN, WOMEN, YOUNG ADULTS

Young Adults

In addition to our hikes on the 2nd and 4th Sundays (locations/times are on our Instagram), we have 2 events:

1. **Young Adults Workshop Night**

Friday, May 9th - 7pm at Zion's Church in the Fellowship Hall

Learn from our resident plant expert, Emily Reppert, as she teaches us how to transplant and care for houseplants! You'll leave with a freshly potted plant and some botanical knowledge. So invite a friend and make some memories! You may learn something new! If you're interested in this event, please let us know so we can have enough supplies.

2. **Memorial Wreath Placement at Zion's Cemetery**

Sunday, May 25th - After 3rd service at Zion's Church

Join us as we assemble and place memorial wreaths at the graves of our US veterans in the Zion's cemetery. Meet us in the Young Adults Sunday School room after the 3rd service.

****A Message To All Zion's Church Members****

If you have a loved one who was a US veteran and is buried in the Zion's Cemetery, please fill out this Google Form so we know to place a wreath there! Scan the QR code or talk to one of The Walk members today!



Men

Tuesday Knights are studying-
Transformed into the image of
Christ within a genuine
brotherhood

Men's Sunday School is studying-
Inspiring stories

Next Men's event is May 3-
Sandy Spring trail 9 A.M.
Contact Hugh Browder for details
or go to zionschurch.org/mens-hike/

Women

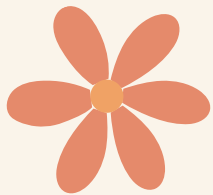
MUDRUN Obstacle Course & Horseback Trail Ride Activities

Saturday, May 31, 2025

There are no more available spots for the Horseback riding, but still room for the MudRun if you're interested. For those who have already signed up, be sure to let us know. We can't promise to work out a carpool plan that suits everyone, but at least we can know who to expect.

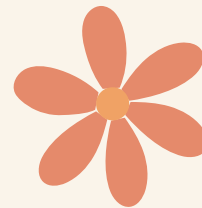
Questions?

admin@inspiredsisters.org



HAPPENINGS AT THE JOURNEY CAFE

By: Dan Bailey, Youth Pastor



Here's a quick update about what's happening at the Journey Café and the ministries there.

- Renovations to the building's exterior and HVAC system are underway. This work should be completed by late May. This work is being done by Matt Ott of Modus Construction and Kerry Herbst of Tri-County HVAC.
- At Rock Us on April 9, we wrapped up a multi-week sermon series called "DTRT: Do The Right Thing". Part of the sermon that night involved two of our youth praise band members coming up and sharing some of the challenges of teens trying to "do the right thing" today.
 - Our 1st teen to speak was 11th-grader Delaney Muller, a singer in our youth praise band & Journey Church band. She recalled a recent slumber party where several of the girls tried to get Delaney to sneak out and run around the town, no doubt to get into some trouble. Delaney knew this was wrong and told the girls such. They continued to coerce her, especially since she was the only girl who had a car. Delaney successfully resisted them and no one ended up leaving. Her leadership and moral stance in doing the right thing that night helped to protect the girls from getting into trouble.
 - The 2nd young person to speak was 10th-grader Joey Seidel, youth praise band drummer and Zion's Church praise band bass player. He had a different personal story to tell, one where he had failed to do the right thing during various peer pressure situations when he was in middle school. He was blunt and honest about where that led him. Joey stated that as he trusted in Jesus more & more, he was able to resist temptation and do the right thing. But he alluded to continuing challenges, temptation and personal shortcomings in a very honest, open and vulnerable manner. He added that because God is beyond space and time, His wisdom and understanding are far beyond our simple human thoughts; therefore, we should trust in Him and His ways and He won't let us down. This thought about God helps Joey to make much better decisions and helps him resist going down dark paths. For Joey, this was a very spiritually mature and encouraging message to deliver to the other students.
 - I must add that during both students' mini testimonies, all the kids at Rock Us were really paying close attention. I am so incredibly proud of these two young Christians and for what they did to do the right thing. They are excellent role models and serve as great examples for how God is working in the hearts of our young people at the Journey!
- Our church's big youth ministry summer activity is Impact, our week-long mission/service project. At Impact, we shine the light of Jesus into the Hamburg area by conducting a wide variety of service projects. Many of these projects involve helping widows, elderly or handicapped residents with outdoor work like painting, small carpentry repairs and gardening. We also help local non-profit organizations. We do these work projects during the day. At night we stay at the Blue Mountain Olivet Camp on

HAPPENINGS AT THE JOURNEY CAFE

Continued....

Mountain Rd. The camp has a lot of fun activities like fishing, swimming and beach volleyball. Middle and High schoolers are invited to attend. This summer, Impact '25 is from July 6 - 11. The cost is only \$25/student. We always need adult helpers too for a variety of roles. If you would like to get involved, we are very flexible about days and times of service. Please contact me (Dan Bailey) at 610-301-9911 if you'd like more info.

- With the addition of the Three Strands, the Journey Café is now open seven days a week. Here's a listing of all the things that are happening at the Journey nowadays:
 - A daily after-school program for middle/high school students (Mon-Thurs afternoons)
 - Chop-N-Chat youth cooking group for middle/high school students (Tues at 3:30pm)
 - Rock Us youth group for middle/high school students (Wed 5:45-8:30 pm)
 - Zion's Church confirmation class on Mondays (6:30pm)
 - Journey Church service at 11am on Sundays
 - Prime Timers game days (third Friday of the month at 10AM)
 - Five Adult Bible studies (various times/dates)
 - Three Strands gym (Mon-Sat, opens at 5AM)
 - 2 knitting groups (Please note that Bev & Sandy's knitting group is on hold for the summer)
- It's working out great with the Three Strands Community Center/gym. Stefani Boyer of Three Strands reported that they've picked up 80 new members since coming to the Journey in January; they now have nearly 350 members. Stefani also said, "We have many people stopping in for coffee and conversation because they see movement within our space. There is next to no time during our hours of operation that the Journey Café is empty." She also stated that the new knitters group comes twice a month and said that they wanted to come there simply because, "they love the atmosphere and friendly faces."
- We are seeing many of our teen students joining the Three Strands gym. Also, several young adults who've graduated from our youth programs are now working out at the gym. This is giving us another connection point with these young people, and our ministry efforts are being assisted by the Three Strands staff too.
- Another new addition at the Journey is PA State Powerlifting champion, Cody Wisniewski. He recently moved to Hamburg, and in January of this year, Cody began to train at the Three Strands gym. Cody is also a fairly new Christian, and he was impressed by the mission of Three Strands and the Journey Café. He told me that his goal with competitive powerlifting is to give Jesus Christ all the glory. We are blessed to have Cody at the Three Strand/Journey Café, and who knows what impact he will make for Christ's Kingdom.
- Finally, the Journey Church is going good. The service starts at 11AM (doors open at 10:30). Each week we have honest worship, excellent presentation of God's Word, impacting discussion times, and great fellowship. We were recently blessed when 2 people that we met through the Journey Church took Pastor Randy's final membership class and formally joined Zion's Church. These include Zac Baker and McKayla Gustaveson, both of whom are young adults. We welcome them into the Zion's Church family!



CHILDREN & FAMILY HAPPENINGS

May 2025

Sunday School

B.L.A.S.T. Kids

Being Light and Salt Together

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

nursery & adult classes
also available

located downstairs

Z-World

July 26th & 27th
Free family event

Zipline, 200' Alpine slide, giant
slip 'n slide, pony rides, silly
skits, food, camping, & more

more info or register at:
z-world.org

Planet Shakers

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

Wednesdays - 6:30-8:00 pm

May 14th - last night

- family meal at 5:45 pm
- games and party for kids
at 6:30 pm

A fun end to the school year!

held in the fellowship hall

Moms of the Vine

Where moms & kids share life
together & grow in Christ

May 10th - 10 am-12 pm

Bring Your Wheels


Bring bikes, scooters, or any
wheels you have to ride

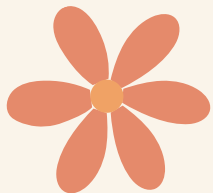
held in the lower parking lot

More Info

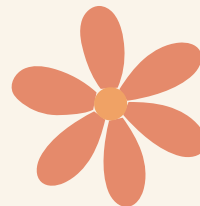
Jennifer.Scott@zionschurch.org

610-562-2300, option 6





THANK YOU



From: Pastor Randy

My dear friends!

What a day!

You showed such love and kindness to Deanna, myself and our children. It was absolutely overwhelming. Overwhelming!

As you know, I got emotional during each of the services, and I knew I would, but I didn't want to hold back. I didn't want to play it safe. I wanted to say what I wanted to say, and I wanted to say it with the depth of feelings that were fueling my words and thoughts.

You have been the greatest family of believers in the whole world for me. I was able to be me, completely me, and serve Jesus as I was uniquely led by the Holy Spirit. I will be eternally grateful.

I know you all think well of me and love me. You credit me with having had such positive impact on many of your lives, but you allowed me to have the great and honored privilege of your trust.

My life is full. My joy is overflowing. Deanna and I are more touched than you could imagine.

Thank you! Thank you for your love, your generosity, your trust, and the deep satisfaction of sharing life with you these past decades. We are bursting with joy.

We love you all.

With eternal thanks,

Randy

P.S. Whose idea was it to give me that jar of mayonnaise on behalf of the church?!! That was the only blemish on the day!!!!!! I guess it could have been worse. You could have given me a cat.