

Zion's Newzflash

JULY 2025



Letter from our Pastor

Zion's Church family,

I feel so blessed to be your pastor. What an honor, and what an extraordinary privilege. My family and I are truly blessed because of you! As I reflect on this new role, one responsibility of a spiritual leader is to ensure that the spiritual life of God's people has direct connection to the source of spiritual life—to God himself. I pray for you to know God for yourself! In this regard, our worship together as a church is only one small part of having a healthy relationship with God. The rest of our time is spent away from our church family. Because of this, I want to encourage you to discover for yourself the type of "prayer closet" relationship with God that works for you and that God desires for you. I'm sharing this with you because this is something very close to my heart, and I want you to be blessed! Early on in my Christian walk, I found that having a vibrant prayer life is one of the most satisfying experiences a person can have.

Jesus said, "But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly" (Matthew 6:6). This is what I mean by the phrase "prayer closet" or the secret place. We get alone with God, not even for the sake of getting prayer answered, but to fellowship with him and enjoy his presence. You may know that my approach to prayer involves walking around while sharing an honest time of "crying out" to God. I love to pour out my heart to God: "Pour out your heart like water in the presence of the Lord" (Lamentations 2:19).

Find what works for you. Use your imagination, enter into a season of intentional discovery, and ask God to help you approach him in a way that both pleases him and satisfies your heart. It might be something like prayer journaling, praying with worship music, praying while meditating on Scripture, walking around, sitting, lying prostrate, praying and dancing, or so many other approaches. Find what fits who you are. Most importantly, take the time to go before God, because prayer changes everything! As children of God, this is our privilege and our blessing, but it's also the lifeblood of your spiritual walk.

Lastly, please know that I am eager to get to know you and your family. With over 400 active attendees at Zion's Church, I need your help to connect. I invite you to reach out to me through email, phone, the church office, or by any other means necessary to help us get to know each other! I'm looking forward to it.

Be blessed, dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Pastor Roy

Letter from Our Youth Minister

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

All praise to God for an excellent school year within ZSM! We had our final, school-year-ending Rock Us on May 21. At this event, we honored our graduating seniors, as well, during our final Rock Us. Seniors included Eli Blatt, Paige Chase, Dollie Monroe and Christian Wood. We thank them for their faithful Rock Us attendance and pray that they grow in their Christian walk. May God richly bless them on all their future endeavors!

We started our summer youth group, called J.O.Y. Crew, on June 4. J.O.Y. Crew meets on Wednesdays throughout the summer from 4 to 6pm and is open to 6th-12th graders. Besides Bible studies and fun, fellowship activities, J.O.Y. Crew is also helping with preparation for Impact '25 and Youth Sunday at Zion's Church.

Speaking of Youth Sunday, soon-to-be 12th-grader Abigail Scott and her team of youth helpers are leading the efforts for this student-led effort, which is slated for August 17. The theme for Youth Sunday this year is "Don't Look Back".

IMPACT '25 YOUTH MISSION WEEK: "YES HE CAN!"

Impact '25, our week-long youth mission project, begins on Sunday July 6. Our theme for this year is "Yes He Can!" and it's about the amazing things that God did do, can do and will do in our lives. Our theme verse is Jeremiah 32:17 (CEV)- "Lord God, You stretched out Your mighty arm and made the sky and the earth. You can do anything." Incidentally, "Yes He Can" is also a song by the Christian music group Cain.

Please pray for us during the week of Impact (July 6-11). You can pray for the students on Impact, the adult volunteers, the homeowners & organizations that we are serving, and the random people we will be meeting during the week. Please pray for our safety as we conduct our mission work, for the youths and adults involved to shine the light of Christ, and for the Gospel of Jesus to be shared and received in our community.

JOURNEY CAFÉ REFURBISHMENT & GRAND REOPENING

Work at the Journey is just about complete. The siding and decorative stonework have been installed, and the building looks totally amazing. We are holding a grand reopening for the Journey Café in conjunction with the Three Strands Community Center on Friday, August 1 (4-7pm). This family-oriented night will feature food, fun and live music. Please come down and check out the newly refurbished Journey.

JOURNEY CHURCH NEWS

The Journey Church has a new welcome center, which features a flat-screen TV with scrolling announcements/info and a table with various pamphlets and promotional items. Many thanks to Katie Bailey (Evangelism Team) for her help setting this up. We are also looking into better signage and other ways to promote the Journey Church.

The Journey Church band welcomed a new member, recent college grad, Ada Bailey. She is joining the band on vocals and part-time bass guitar. Besides Ada, the band includes Delaney Muller (vocals), Zac Baker (Bass), Alex Blatt (guitar), Will Browder (guitar), Cody Fink (drums) and Dan Bailey (guitar/keys).

Letter from Our Youth Minister (continued)

I also want to acknowledge the fine efforts of Cody Fink. Cody leads the Journey Church when I'm not around. He did this on Sunday, May 11 when I was in Ohio for my daughter's college graduation and on May 25 when I was on vacation in NJ. Cody is an excellent young leader, and we are truly blessed to have him in our church family.

Finally, we celebrate the marriage of two Journey Church attendees and recent Zion's Church members, Shawn & McKayla Wesner, who were wed on June 21. It is so great to see God working in the lives of young adults and bringing them together in truly amazing ways. May God continue to bless the Wesners as they grow in Him!

THREE STRANDS NEWS

Members of the Three Strands recently helped me and several youths from Zion's/Journey with a service project to replace a roof at the pool house at the Blue Mountain Olivet Camp, our home base for Impact. (This was a job that we weren't able to complete last summer at Impact '24.) Of particular note is Ryan Riegel of Three Strands, who led the operation. The camp was very blessed as were all who participated. I was really encouraged too by the camaraderie among us all during the project. I believe it to be a sign of more good things to come as we work together in unity for God's Kingdom and His purposes.

God bless you,
Dan Bailey, youth minister

Consistory Corner

1. Z-World is quickly approaching and we are asking for your prayers that the event will be a success. Jenn is doing an amazing job and we can't wait to see it finished.
2. Impact is right around the corner, as well and we ask for your blessings through volunteerism or prayer for the kids doing this amazing work around Hamburg.
3. The Prime Time group has been rebranded to fit more of the needs of the age group, while still staying true to the commitment of Intergenerational ministries that they have always stood by. This change was made under Dan Smith and any questions can be directed towards him.

Zion's Cemetery Company of Perry Township

The monthly board meetings are held at Zion's Church at 9:00 A.M. in the Meeting Room 201. July's meeting will be held on July 10, 2025.
Our website: <https://zionsperrytwp.cemetery.network>



Z-WORLD Donations Requested

BAKED GOODS

Baked goods donations (cookies, brownies, etc.) are needed for Z-World. If you would like to bake something, contact Jenn Scott (Jennifer.Scott@zionschurch.org or 610-562-2300, option 6) for details and to arrange a time to drop it off.

WATER BOTTLES

Water bottle donations are requested for Z-World. The smaller 8-ounce bottles are preferred, but all donations are appreciated. Water bottle donations can be placed downstairs in Room 102 along the chalkboard wall. Thanks for your help!

Men's Ministries

SUNDAYS & TUESDAYS

~9:40am Sunday School
How to find Jesus in the Old Testament

~6:30pm Tuesday Knights
We are continuing to better understand our Identity, Purpose and Assignments

MEN'S RETREAT

October 10-12th
Camp Orchard Hill
Contact Matt Ott or Nate Keck

Women's Ministries

LADIES GAME NIGHT AT THE JOURNEY CAFE ~ FRIDAY, JULY 11

Doors will open at 6:30pm with welcoming, mingling. A group game begins around 7:00pm. After a few rounds, maybe we'll break into smaller groups. Lite snacks and refreshments will be available, but you are welcome to bring a share-a-ble. Be ready to laugh!

THE WALK Young Adults

HIKE & VOLLEYBALL

Summer Hike: Sunday, July 20th - Nolde Forest - 1:30pm - Meet at Sawmill Parking Lot
Volleyball: Young adults are invited to hangout for an evening at Zion's Church. We'll play volleyball, have a campfire to roast hotdogs and marshmallows. Bring a friend and have some fun! Meet us at the bottom parking lot on Sunday, July 13 at 6pm!

Children & Families

July 2025

B.L.A.S.T. Kids Sunday School

Being Light and Salt Together

Sundays at 9:40 am

3 years old - 5th grade

School may be on summer break, but Sunday school at Zion's does not take the summer off. Elementary kids can join us for fun with blacklights, elephant toothpaste, and more as we learn to dare to live like Daniel. Preschool and nursery classes have summer fun too.

Z-World

July 26th & 27th

Free Family Event

A weekend event filled with time to share laughs & make family memories. Activities include Zipline, Alpine Slide, giant Slip 'n Slide, new Splash Dash obstacle course, pony rides, silly skits, food, camping, & more.

Registration required by July 21st
More info or register at z-world.org

Free Gift For You - RightNow Media

RightNow Media is an online resource with over 25,000 Biblical videos for all ages available to access 24/7. Start a devotion with your family or learn practical helps in areas of marriage, parenting, finances, and more. Find wholesome programs for kids geared for their ages. A favorite kids show at my house is Superbook. Visit <https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Account/Invite/zionschurch> to get started.

Moms of the Vine

Where moms & kids share life together & grow in Christ

Suncatchers

August 9th 10 am - 12 pm

Facebook: MomsOfTheVine

Planet Shakers

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

Summer break

More Program Info:

Jennifer.Scott@zionschurch.org

610-562-2300, option 6